

## **Lesson Plan #8 – “Student as Word of the Day”**

**Goal:** The goal of this lesson is to charge students with, and have them accept, personal responsibility for being the “expert” on their word. .

**Objectives:** Students will:

- Know the pronunciation, spelling, definition and various uses of their word
- Be able to help their classmates pronounce and use the word properly
- Be the class Vocabulary Leader for the day

### **Lesson Procedure:**

For this lesson one student wearing a Meta-threads shirt is to be chosen as the “Word of the Day.” The task for the entire class will be to try to incorporate the Word of the Day into every conversation that they have throughout the course of the day. At the beginning of the day the teacher should lead a brief discussion of the word – the pronunciation, the spelling, the meaning and practice using the word in several different sentences employing the various available forms of the word as well. Repetitious use of the word in various contexts will heighten the likelihood that this word will fossilize and more quickly become a part of the students’ available lexicon.

A more advanced version of this lesson is to challenge students to use the Word of the Day *plus* their own word in each and every conversation that they have. This may lead to funky usages of the words or even misuses of the word, but that’s okay. The idea is to encourage students to explore and experiment and get creative with new and challenging vocabulary. Plus, this allows a bevy of “teaching moments” throughout the course of the day. Feedback and correction is one of the most constructive ways for instilling accurate usage. This lesson opens up the opportunity for more of such exchanges.

Words are not simply words – they are concepts. The bigger our vocabulary the more access we have to a cornucopia of concepts.