

WordGen Weekly

Grades 6, 7, & 8

- 72 one-week units organized around a social or civic dilemma
- Each unit contains five brief activities for ELA, math, science, and social studies

WordGen Elementary

Grades 4 & 5

- 24 two-week units organized around a central question
- Each unit contains a variety of texts, word-learning activities, writing tasks, and debate and/or discussion opportunities

Social Studies Generation

Grades 6, 7, & 8

- 18 one-week in-depth units focused on topics covered in social studies content standards
- Each unit contains supplementary materials for other content area classes

Science Generation

Grades 6, 7, & 8

- 18 one-week in-depth units focused on topics covered in science content standards
- Each unit contains supplementary materials for other content area classes



Four Interdisciplinary Programs to Support Academic Literacy and Practices

Word Generation is a set of Tier 1, research-based curricular resources designed for use across content areas in grades 4-8. It places heavy emphasis on 21st century learning goals, including academic language, argumentation, analytic reasoning, reading to find evidence, oral discussion, and writing. Each unit introduces 5-10 high-utility academic "focus words" and begins with an engaging text that introduces multiple perspectives on a high-interest topic. While the units have moments of direct instruction, much of the learning comes from carefully scaffolded academic discussion and debates, providing students opportunities to draw on accumulated knowledge and apply new knowledge. Students read, discuss, debate, and write about each topic using the focus words.

- Developed by teams of researchers and practitioners
- Tested in a broad range of classrooms
- Promotes academic vocabulary and deep text comprehension skills when systematically implemented
- Boosts the quality of classroom discussion

serpinstitute.org/wordgen

All student and teacher curriculum materials freely available!

WordGen Professional Learning Series

Flexible online professional development that prepares educators to launch and use WordGen Weekly through a year-long sequence of sessions exploring WordGen practices and implementation

Development of Word Generation was led by Catherine Snow (Harvard University) through a SERP collaboration with the Boston Public Schools and other districts in Massachusetts and Maryland.

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Evidence that classroom discussion improves literacy is abundant. Word Generation supports teachers by providing debatable questions together with evidence from which to argue.

Dr. Catherine Snow, Harvard University

