Teaching Cognitive Verbs Boosts Complement Clause Input

Teaching Cognitive Verbs as Vocabulary Words Implicitly Increases Complement Clause Use by Head Start Teachers

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<th>Action Verbs</th>
<th>Cognitive Verbs</th>
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<td>Simple Bias</td>
<td>Complex Bias</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verb</td>
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<td>Identify</td>
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<td>Observe</td>
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<td>Forgive</td>
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<td>Describe</td>
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<td>Record</td>
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<td>Feel</td>
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<td>Write</td>
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Proportion of times each verb is used in a complex sentence in classroom interactions

Owen Van Horne, Curran, & Hall, 2017, CLTT

Verb Bias is when a verb TENDS TO show up often in one syntactic frame.

Think
Remember
Forget
Know
Pretend
Imagine
Wonder
Understand
See
Hear

Smell
Taste
Discover
Notice
Want
Wish
Hope
Need
Prefer
Suggest

Say
Tell
Ask
Explain
Describe
Persuade
Announce
Inform
Decide
Predict

Teachers were asked to teach the word... Sample materials for 'try'

- Definition - To work hard at something even if you aren’t able to do something
- Book - Excuse me, I’m Trying to Read, by Mary Jo Amani
- Large Group – Try to do this! Kids try to perform gross motor actions without falling off a line on the floor.
- Small Group – Cotton ball Tong Craft—Craft where children try to pick up cotton balls with tongs to place on glue
- Independent - Memory game – Try to find a match

Verbs of cognition, desire, perception & communication are BIASED to show up with complement clauses.