

Tips & Resources 10.18 (3)

Core Vocabulary vs. Fringe

Vocabulary can be categorized into two subsets: *Core vocabulary* and *Fringe vocabulary*. Core Vocabulary consists of the words most expressed by individuals and are versatile. These words are often sight words and verbs. Core vocabulary can be used and arranged to express many messages. Fringe vocabulary consists of words that occur infrequently and lack versatility. These are often nouns and other words specific to categories or topics. The following link helps clarify the differences. <https://aaclanguagelab.com/resources/core-vocabulary>



The Center for Literacy and Disability Studies is a great resource for teaching literacy to individuals who require modifications and accommodations. This link addresses teaching methods of Core Vocabulary:

<https://www.med.unc.edu/ahs/clds/resources/core-vocabulary> On the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies site, check out the following link to Journey to the Core: Developing a Core Vocabulary for the Common Core presentation.

The idea of Core and Fringe vocabulary is primarily for supporting students who present with severe expressive language deficits.