



FOR EXCELLENCE IN MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**2023**  
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# IMPACT

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

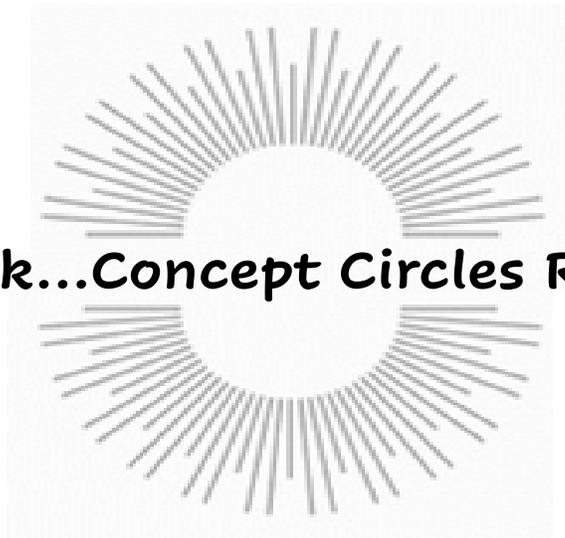
## Concept Circles Revitalized

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# Circle Back...Concept Circles REVITALIZED!



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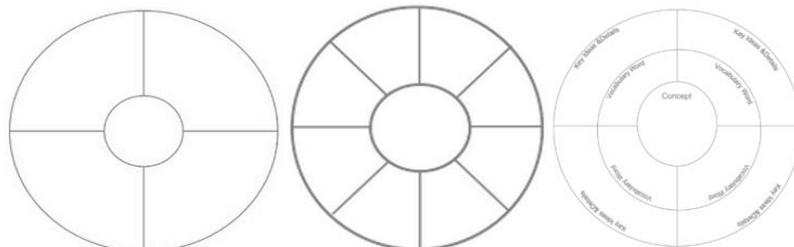
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## **Goals and Objectives**

*The Circle Back/ Concept Circles* is a strategy using a graphic organizer to improve vocabulary and key reading skills. In a reading lesson, it can serve various instructional goals that enhance students' comprehension, critical thinking, and engagement with the text. Therefore, the goal is for the students to visualize and analyze the relationship between vocabulary words within the text and gather evidence as it relates to the word. The strategy will help to students learn a deeper understanding of vocabulary and their connectedness to the central concept. This can be used for multiple grade levels and across subjects.

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Discuss the benefits of an expanded vocabulary
- Analyze the relationships and connections between the key elements of the text.
- Discuss how the practice of context clues and the use of text/ pictures to enhance comprehension
- Identify and select the key elements of the text, such as main characters, central events, significant details, and important themes to determine the concept of a word.

## Florida's B.E.S.T. Standards

### *ELA:*

1. ELA. 3.V.1.1 Recognize and appropriately use grade level academic vocabulary in speaking and writing
2. ELA.3.R.3.2 Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.
  - a. Include plot and theme
  - b. Use central idea and relevant details.
3. ELA. 3. R. 3.1 Identify and explain metaphors, personification, and hyperbole in text (s)
4. ELA.5.V.1.AP.1 Identify and use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in communication, using the student's mode of communication.

### *Math:*

5. MA.3.NSO.1.2 Compose and decompose four-digit numbers in multiple ways using thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones. Demonstrate each composition or decomposition using objects, drawings, and expressions or equations.
6. 6. MA.3.FR.1.3 Read and write fractions, including fractions greater than one, using standard form, numeral- word form, and word form

*As a reminder, this project meets standards for all grade levels (K-12) and subjects.*

### Curriculum Area(s):

1. K-12 Cross Curriculum
2. Students in the General Education Program and Exceptional Student Education Program.
3. The project can be adapted to other ages or achievement levels
4. The project can be used with larger or smaller groups

## Materials

The material for the lesson includes the following: Reading passage (class set of novels or novel excerpt), concept circle graphic organizer from Discovery Education, vocabulary words (preselected from the passage), pencils, paper, manipulatives (for math). A computer is also required if the students are creating the digitized version of the organizer, such as when using PowerPoint or Canva.

## Setup

The strategy will help students learn a deeper understanding of vocabulary and their connectedness to the central concept of a text. Below is an example of a reading classroom activity setup:

1. Teacher will locate text, or a printable transcript related to the topic you are discussing with students. *Acceptable items include text excerpt or video transcript that discusses plate tectonics.*
2. Prepare a concept circle organizer ahead of time. Teachers have access and can obtain the concept circle template from Discovery Education.
  - Write a different concept/related vocabulary word in each section of the circle.
  - Optional modifications include filling in 2 of the words, and then asking students to supply the other 2 and provide written justification for why they fit the concept.
3. Display the circle to students and engage in vocabulary development discussions to ensure that students have a foundational understanding of the terms.
4. Have students read or listen to the text, pausing occasionally for note taking.
5. Ask students to discuss word meanings with a partner. They will also discuss what the words have in common. If they can articulate a concept, ask them to record it in the center of the circle.
6. Debrief with students by asking them to share the concept connections between the words. Encourage them to refer back to the text/media to provide evidence for their reasoning.

## Sample Lesson Plan

\*\* The teacher can tailor these broad lesson plans to fit their individual needs and student populations.

Title: Exploring Vocabulary with Concept Circles

Grade Level: 4th Grade

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Objective:

- Introduce and reinforce new vocabulary words using concept circles.
- Enhance students' vocabulary comprehension and usage.
- Foster critical thinking and collaboration skills.

Materials:

- List of vocabulary words (4-6 words)
- Whiteboard or interactive board
- Markers or digital drawing tools
- Concept circle template from Discovery Education
- Laptops, tablets, or access to the internet (optional)

Lesson Outline:

1. Introduction (10 minutes):

- Start by discussing the importance of vocabulary in reading comprehension and effective communication.
- Introduce the concept of concept circles as a creative way to explore and deepen understanding of new words.

2. Vocabulary Selection (5 minutes):

- Display the list of vocabulary words on the whiteboard or screen.
- Briefly explain each word's meaning and usage.
- Ensure that the words are appropriate for the grade level and align with the curriculum.

3. Interactive Vocabulary Exploration (15 minutes):

- While on the computers, direct the students to an online tool for completing the concept circles such as **PowerPoint** or **Canva**. Teachers can create an annotated assignment on Schoology.
- The students can submit the assignment through Schoology.

4. Collaborative Concept Circle Activity (15 minutes):

- Divide the class into small groups of 3-4 students.
- Assign each group a vocabulary word from the list.
- Instruct students to collaboratively brainstorm and add interconnected ideas, synonyms, antonyms, context sentences, and related images within their concept circle.

5. Group Presentations (10 minutes):

- Have each group share their concept circle with the class.
- Encourage them to explain the central vocabulary word, its meanings, and the connections they made within the circle.

6. Reflection and Vocabulary Practice (5 minutes):

- Discuss the common themes and connections observed across different concept circles.
- Encourage students to use the new vocabulary words in sentences of their own and share them with the class.

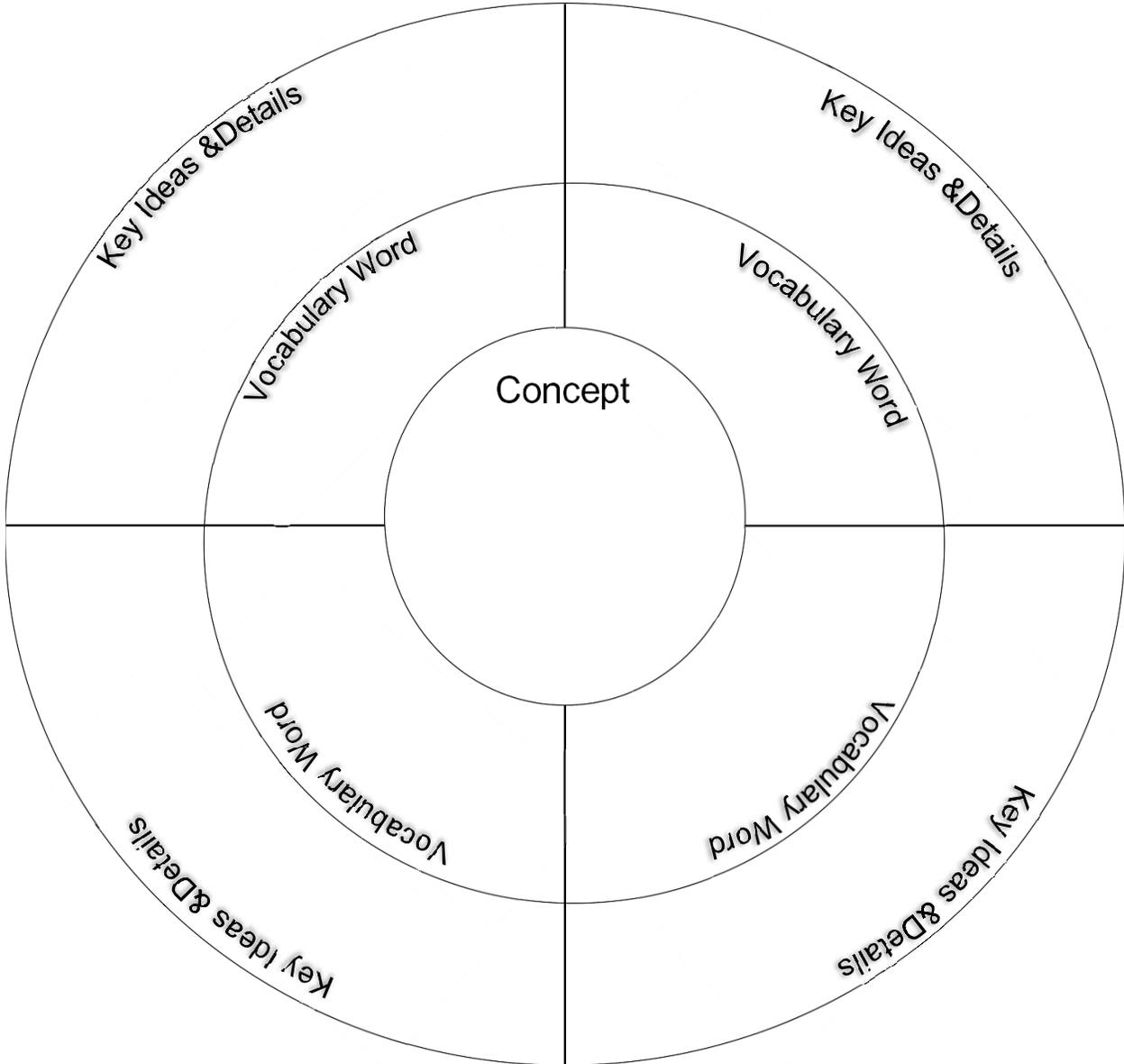
Assessment:

- Quality and creativity of the collaborative concept circles.
- Student participation in class discussions and vocabulary practice.
- Effective use of the new vocabulary words in sentences/ paragraph.

As an extension activity, the students can write a short paragraph summarizing the text, even incorporating the vocabulary words.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Write each **vocabulary word** in the labeled spaces below. While watching the video, pause frequently to add **key ideas and details** to the spaces of the outer circle that help you understand the vocabulary words. Finally, determine the connection between all the terms and write the **concept** in the center.



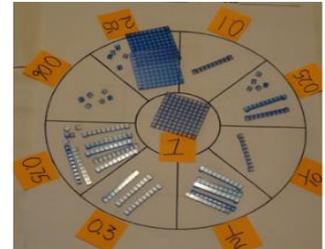
## Resources/ References



Proportional Reasoning



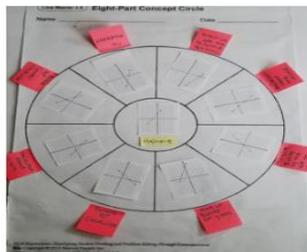
Number Quantities (more/less)



Decimals



Patterning



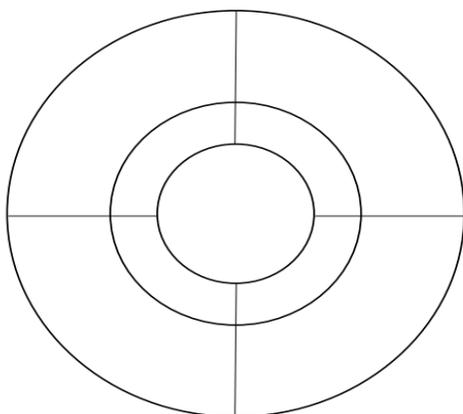
Translations & Transformations of Functions



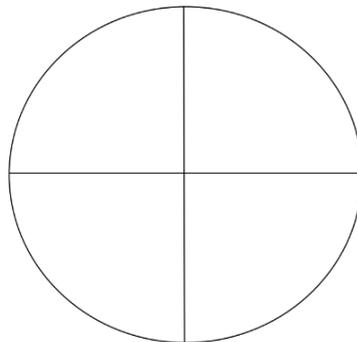
Out of Doors Explorations

Example of math circle concepts can be found at:  
<https://www.markskrpan.com/sample-concept-circle-activities/>

**Concept Circles Handout**



Concept or Topic



Read the Concept Circle Topic and 3 words (to the left). Next, write *one more* word in the 4<sup>th</sup> section that is connected to the topic. Then, write how the 4 words are related to the topic.

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\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Circle Concepts organizers can be found at:  
<https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/CCHandout.pdf>  
<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B3KLG7jZDkhxVnZ1RDBzOVoxWVvk/edit?resourcekey=0-9ITNmatNHZr4YK8Vv7cE3Q>