

Read Words in Context

Vocabulary Words

above	under
among	until
beneath	upon
during	within
toward	without

Word Learning Tip!

A **preposition** is a word that shows a relationship between a noun and another word in a sentence. Prepositions can show location (where something is), direction (where something is going), and time (when something happens).

Vocabulary Building Strategy

Use Context Clues When you read, you may see a word you don't know. Be a word detective. Look around and see if you can find other words that might help you. Use those words as clues to learn the word you don't know.


READ!

Helpful Bugs

Insects, or bugs, are everywhere! They live in the grass, on bushes, and in trees. If you stand in the middle of a bed of flowers, you will probably see butterflies **among** the bright blossoms.



If you pick up a rock, you might see a cricket **under** it. There are even insects living **beneath** the ground! Mole crickets, for example, burrow below the soil.

Insects may be small, but many of them are big helpers to people. See that honeybee in the air? It is flying **toward** a flower. After it lands **upon** the flower, it will go into the center of the blossom. While it is **within** the blossom, it will gather the nectar that is inside the blossom. Nectar is the sweet juice of a flower. The bee sucks up the nectar with its long, hollow tongue. A bee will visit many flowers and sip nectar from each one. Then it will fly back to the beehive. There the bees will turn the nectar into honey. **Without** bees, there would be no honey. What a loss that would be!

Look up! There's a ladybug flying **above** you. Ladybugs help farmers. They eat the harmful insects that damage farmers' crops. When the weather starts to get cold, ladybugs have to find places to spend the winter. They crawl into cracks, under leaves, and into pinecones. They stay in these hiding places **during** the winter and sleep **until** the weather gets warmer in the spring. Some ladybugs even hide in the woodwork of houses. Some farmers think it is good luck to have ladybugs in their homes. Would you feel lucky to have a ladybug living with you?