



# The American Heritage<sup>®</sup> Student Dictionary

by Editors of the American Heritage  
Dictionaries

- Why Owning a Dictionary Is So Important for Middle School Students

## **American Heritage<sup>®</sup> Student Dictionary Editors Devise "Daily Definition" — A Word for Each Day of Summer**

Summer vacation is a time for kids to get out and have fun. But it should not be a time for kids to forget what they learned in class the previous year or what they'll need to know for the next higher grade. To help parents of middle school students keep their kids connected to learning over the summer, the editors of *The American Heritage<sup>®</sup> Student Dictionary* have developed a vocabulary list — 65 words, one for each summer vacation weekday — to give students a head start on the coming school year.

"We have compiled a list of words across a variety of subjects that parents can use as a game to help their children maintain and enhance their vocabularies over the summer months," says editor of *The American Heritage<sup>®</sup> Student Dictionary*, David Pritchard. "Once each weekday, parents can ask their children to locate one of the words in the family's dictionary. At the end of the summer, parents can give the kids a quiz and offer them an outing of their choice as a reward."

alliteration	hypocrisy	random
analogy	immune	renaissance
antibody	inference	renegade
aspire	introspection	sacrifice
bamboozle	jaunty	solstice
bizarre	jovial	stereotype
boycott	labyrinth	symbiosis
camouflage	light-year	technique
chronology	marsupial	toxin
commemorate	maneuver	tranquillity
deduction	mutation	tumult
dialogue	nebula	ultraviolet
divulge	nocturnal	unanimous
eclectic	nuisance	undulate
enthusiastic	omnivore	vacillate
exult	outrageous	vertebrate
fallacy	parasite	virtuoso
flourish	plateau	voracious
gargoyle	protagonist	wretched
guerrilla	quandary	yacht
guru	quarantine	zoology
hieroglyphics	quota	

In 2002, the editors of the American Heritage® line developed a list of "100 words every high school graduate should know" that was well received by educators, librarians, and the media. It was featured in *Atlantic Monthly*, *USA Today*, and on National Public Radio. Similarly, with the summer vocabulary list, the editors hope to engage young people in an appreciation of the amazing power of language.

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