To support language acquisition within the classroom, the following theme words are identified as vocabulary words of focus within our curriculum. The scaffolding of the vocabulary words will be through the utilization of their corresponding vocabulary picture cards. The expectation is the introduction of these vocabulary words are as outlined within their Big Day for PreK thematic unit.

Without frequent practice, multiple exposures to words, and systematic opportunities to use words, children are not likely to acquire the vocabulary and the conceptual linkages to knowledge at the pace that will be needed to narrow the achievement gap. —Neuman & Dwyer, 2009, *Best Practices, Big Day for Pre-K Professional Handbook 2015*, pg. 122

**Theme 1 – Ready for School**

*Week 1:* class, name, school, and teacher  
*Week 2:* friends, help, and play  
*Week 3:* learn, partners, and together  
*Week 4:* cooperate, share, and turns

**Theme 2 – My Family**

*Week 1:* brother, family, father, grandfather, grandmother, kindness, mother, and sister  
*Week 2:* caring, cousins, feelings, and love  
*Week 3:* celebrate, holiday, relatives, thankful, and together  
*Week 4:* alike, different, respect, similar, special, and tradition

**Theme 3 – Our Community**

*Week 1:* apartments, block, building, community, firehouse, hospital, library, and neighborhood  
*Week 2:* doctor, firefighter, librarian, mail carrier, police officer, work, and worker  
*Week 3:* driver, passenger, safety, traffic, transportation, travel, and vehicle  
*Week 4:* Earth, environment, protect, recycle, reduce, reuse, and trash

**Theme 4 – Awesome Animals!**

*Week 1:* animal, climb, feathers, fly, fur, scales, shell, slither, and swim  
*Week 2:* burrow, hive, habitat, hibernate, nest, tunnel, web, and woods  
*Week 3:* bug, crawl, insects, pinch, stinger, stings, swarm and wings  
*Week 4:* adult, baby, change, develop, grow, growth, and stage
Theme 5 - Imagine It, Make It

Week 1: create, imagination, imagine, pretend, and visualize
Week 2: bridge, build, ramp, structure, and tools
Week 3: construct, invention, materials, and plan
Week 4: appreciate, art, artist, artwork, dance, design, music, and sculpture

Theme 6 - Growing Up Healthy

Week 1: hear, see, senses, sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch
Week 2: exercise, fitness, healthy, hurt, medicine, nutrition, and rest
Week 3: fruit, grains, health, nutritious, protein, and vegetables
Week 4: accident, caution, danger, emergency, harm, injury, and safety

Theme 7 - Nature All Around Us

Week 1: flower, petals, plant, roots, seeds, tree, and vine
Week 2: lightning, moon, sky, stars, sun, and thunderstorm
Week 3: clouds, cloudy, rainy, sunny, weather, and windy
Week 4: branches, fall, leaf, season, spring, summer, twigs, and winter

Theme 8 - Moving On

Week 1: travel, trip, and visit
Week 2: challenge, encourage, and try
Week 3: finish, goal, and quit
Week 4: kindergarten, practice, proud, succeed, and success