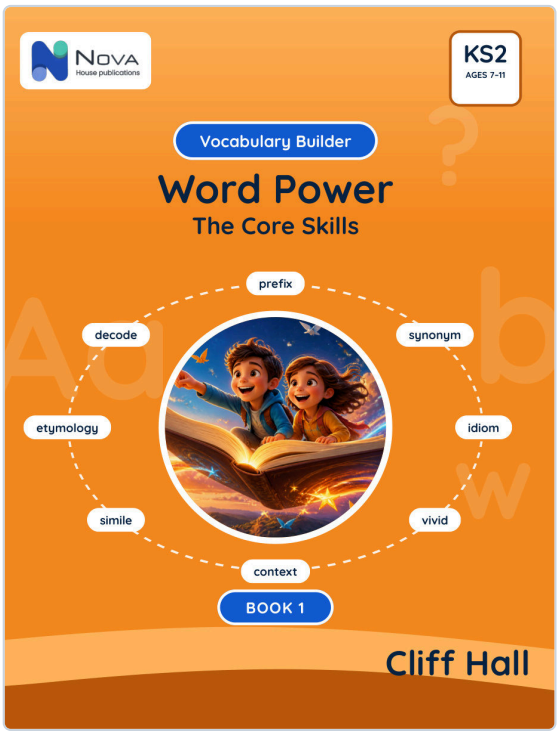
FREE SAMPLE PAGES

Vocabulary Builder

Book 1: Word Power: The Core Skills

Section 1: Building Blocks of Words



Inside this sample

p. 2	Section opener: Building Blocks of Words, with the word cloud
p. 3	Activity 1: Noun Types: Name That Thing!; Activity 2: Verbs: The Action Squad
p. 4	Activity 3: Adjectives and Adverbs: The Describers; Activity 4: The Connectors: Pronouns, Prepositions and Conjunctions
p. 5	Activity 5: Determiners: The Little Pointers; Activity 6: Theme in Action: The Language of a Great Story
p. 6	Activity 7: Powerful Prefixes; Activity 8: Super Suffixes: Changing Word Class
p. 7	Answers for Activities 1 to 8

1 Print
Print on A4 at home. Every page fits the sheet, so choose "Fit to page" if your printer asks.

2 Have a go
Let your child work through the activities at their own pace. Allow 30 to 40 minutes.

3 Check together
Use the answers on page 7 and talk through any new words.

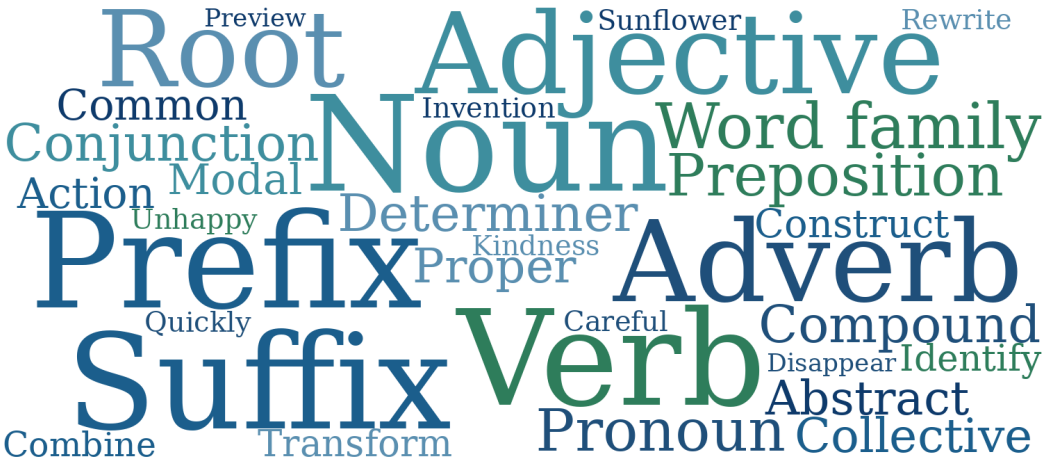
About the book

The core book of the Vocabulary Builder series. Five sections teach children how words are built, how to work out new words from clues, how words play tricks, how to choose the right word, and where words come from. For ages 7 to 11 (KS2) and beyond.

Find out more about the full book at novaeducation.uk

Section 1

Building Blocks of Words



Look at the words in the word cloud above.

- Sort the words into three columns: Easy, Medium and Hard.
- When you have finished this section of the book, look at your columns again and decide if you would like to move any of the words.

Your notes and answers:

© 2027 Nova House Publications · novaeducation.uk · Sample material · not for resale or redistribution

Activity 1: Noun Types: Name That Thing!

Nouns are naming words. They name people, places, things and ideas. Read about the four types, then sort the nouns. Write C (common), P (proper), A (abstract) or CL (collective).

Type	What it names	Examples
common noun	everyday people, places and things	tablet, school, friend
proper noun	a particular person, place or thing; it starts with a capital letter	London, Saturday, Amira
abstract noun	an idea or feeling that you cannot see or touch	happiness, courage, freedom
collective noun	a group	team, audience, flock



1. ☐ London
2. ☐ tablet
3. ☐ excitement
4. ☐ army
5. ☐ computer
6. ☐ River Thames
7. ☐ bravery
8. ☐ swarm

Activity 2: Verbs: The Action Squad

Verbs are doing or being words. Action verbs show what someone does (run, build). Being verbs show a state (is, are, was, were). Modal verbs show how likely or necessary something is (can, could, should, might, must). Write A, B or M.

1. ☐ She practises the piano every Friday.
2. ☐ The new library is really useful.
3. ☐ You should check your work carefully.
4. ☐ The robot answered my question.
5. ☐ They were excited about the school trip.
6. ☐ You might want to save your work before you close the laptop.

© 2027 Nova House Publications · novaeducation.uk · Sample material · not for resale or redistribution

Activity 3: Adjectives and Adverbs: The Describers

Adjectives describe nouns (what kind? which one? how many?). Adverbs describe verbs, adjectives or other adverbs (how? when? where? how often?). Underline the adjectives and circle the adverbs.

Adjectives (describe nouns)	Adverbs (describe verbs)
the **amazing** picture	she sang **beautifully**
a **difficult** puzzle	he finished it **quickly**

1. The powerful computer runs smoothly.
2. She carefully painted an incredible poster for her classroom.
3. The exciting match ended suddenly when the rain arrived.
4. His funny jokes always spread quickly around the playground.

Activity 4: The Connectors: Pronouns, Prepositions and Conjunctions

Pronouns replace nouns (she, them). Prepositions show position or relationship (under, with). Conjunctions join words and clauses (and, because). Sort the words into the table.

them · because · under · although · she · between · we · and · with

Pronouns	Prepositions	Conjunctions

Power Words

construct	verb	to build or put together	kon-STRUKT
identify	verb	to recognise and name something	eye-DEN-tih-fy
essential	adjective	absolutely necessary	ih-SEN-shul
transform	verb	to change completely	trans-FORM
vivid	adjective	bright, clear and full of life	VIV-id
precise	adjective	exact and accurate	prih-SICE

© 2027 Nova House Publications · novaeducation.uk · Sample material · not for resale or redistribution

Activity 5: Determiners: The Little Pointers

A determiner comes before a noun and tells you which one, whose or how many: a, an, the, this, that, these, those, some, every, many, my, your. Circle every determiner in each sentence.

1. These books belong to my sister.
2. Every pupil needs a pencil and some paper.
3. That dog chased the ball across the park.
4. Many people visited our school fair.

Write a or an. Remember: an comes before a vowel sound.

___ apple	___ unicorn	___ hour	___ house	___ umbrella	___ uniform

Activity 6: Theme in Action: The Language of a Great Story

Now use every part of speech! Describe a character from your imagination using at least three nouns (including one proper noun), two action verbs, three adjectives, two adverbs, one pronoun, one preposition and one conjunction.

> **Example:** Captain Nova is a brave explorer who travels quickly through the galaxy. She fearlessly greets the friendly aliens, but she always keeps her shiny rocket close by.



My character:

© 2027 Nova House Publications · novaeducation.uk · Sample material · not for resale or redistribution

Activity 7: Powerful Prefixes

A prefix is added to the beginning of a word and changes its meaning.

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
un-	not, opposite	unhappy, unlock
re-	again	rewrite, replay
pre-	before	preview, prehistoric
dis-	not, opposite	disagree, disappear
mis-	wrongly	misunderstand, misspell

1. I need to ____write my story because it is too messy. (again)
2. It is ____fair that we lost on the last kick! (not)
3. Let's watch a ____view of the film first. (before)
4. I ____understood the instructions and drew the wrong shape. (wrongly)
5. She had to ____connect the cable before moving the screen. (opposite)

Make two new words from each base word using prefixes from the table.

appear	do	view

Activity 8: Super Suffixes: Changing Word Class

A suffix is added to the end of a word. It can change the meaning or turn the word into a different word class. Add the correct suffix.

Suffix	Makes	Examples
-tion	a noun	create → creation
-ness	a noun	kind → kindness
-ful	an adjective	care → careful
-less	an adjective	hope → hopeless
-ly	an adverb	brave → bravely

1. power_____ (an adjective meaning "full of power")
2. dark_____ (a noun meaning "the state of being dark")

© 2027 Nova House Publications · novaeducation.uk · Sample material · not for resale or redistribution

Answers and Explanations

Section 1: Building Blocks of Words

Activity 1: Noun Types

1 P; 2 C; 3 A; 4 CL; 5 C; 6 P; 7 A; 8 CL.

Activity 2: Verbs

1 A; 2 B; 3 M; 4 A; 5 B; 6 M.

Activity 3: Adjectives and Adverbs

Adjectives (underlined): 1 powerful; 2 incredible; 3 exciting; 4 funny. Adverbs (circled): 1 smoothly; 2 carefully; 3 suddenly; 4 always, quickly.

Activity 4: The Connectors

Pronouns: them, she, we. Prepositions: under, between, with. Conjunctions: because, although, and.

Activity 5: Determiners

1 These, my; 2 Every, a, some; 3 That, the, the; 4 Many, our. an apple; a unicorn; an hour; a house; an umbrella; a uniform.

Activity 6: The Language of a Great Story

Answers will vary. Check that every required word class is used correctly.

Activity 7: Powerful Prefixes

1 rewrite; 2 unfair; 3 preview; 4 misunderstood; 5 disconnect. Examples: appear: disappear, reappear; do: undo, redo; view: preview, review.

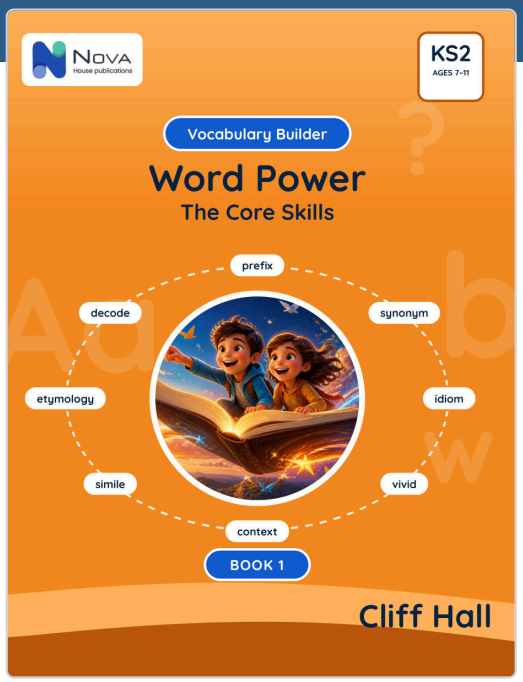
Activity 8: Super Suffixes

1 powerful; 2 darkness; 3 completely; 4 wireless; 5 invention; 6 thoughtful.

© 2027 Nova House Publications · novaeducation.uk · Sample material · not for resale or redistribution

ENJOYED THESE PAGES?

Get the full book



Vocabulary Builder

Book 1: Word Power: The Core Skills

- Five sections, from Building Blocks of Words to Word Origins and Spelling
- Power Words boxes with meanings and a "say it" guide
- Exam Practice activities in the style of 11+ and ISEB questions
- A Checkpoint in every section, with answers and a full glossary at the back

Find it at novaeducation.uk →

or visit novaeducation.uk

Also in the Vocabulary Builder series

Vocabulary Builder Book 2: Nature and the Environment
See novaeducation.uk

Vocabulary Builder Book 3: Characters and Creative Writing
See novaeducation.uk

Vocabulary Builder Book 4: Technology, Innovation and Creativity
See novaeducation.uk

Vocabulary Builder Book 5: Money, Business and Finance
See novaeducation.uk

More free sample pages for every Vocabulary Builder book, and for 7+, 8+ and 11+ English, Maths, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal Reasoning, are on our website: novaeducation.uk