

# Vocabulary Handbook

*Poppy*  
by Avi

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	WORD PART	MEANING	PART OF SPEECH
-able	suffix	able to, can be done	adjective
ac-	prefix	to, toward	
ad-	prefix	toward	
-age	suffix		noun or verb
agit	root	to shake up, to act, to lead	
-al	suffix		adjective
-ar	suffix		adjective
-ary	suffix		adjective
-ate	suffix		verb
bat	root	attack	
bellis	root	beauty	
ceal	root	hide, hidden, secret	
civ (cit)	root	city; person inhabiting a city	
clud	root	shut out	
com-	prefix	with, together	
commu	root	common, public, people	
con-	prefix	with, together	
contra-	prefix	against, opposed to	
cour	root	heart	
cris	root	to separate, pull apart	
cuse (caus)	root	cause, reason, purpose	
de-	prefix	down; completely; undo	
dict	root	to talk, speak, tell	
dis-	prefix	not; opposite of	
divid	root	separate	
-ed	suffix		past tense verb or adjective
em-	prefix	into	
en-	prefix	to provide with	
-en	suffix		verb
-ence	suffix		noun
equ	root	same, fair	
ex-	prefix	out, out from, away	
extra-	prefix	beyond	
fac	root	to make, do, cause	

famil	root	close relationship	
fend	root	guard, protect	
fi	root	to make, to cause	
fid	root	belief, trust, faith	
flict (flic, flig)	root	to strike, to destroy	
flu	root	flowing, moving smoothly	
fort	root	well-being, safety, strength	
-ful	suffix	full of	adjective
greg	root	come together, gather	
gener	root	kind	
-ic	suffix		adjective
-ice	suffix		noun
-il	suffix		adjective
in-	prefix	not; toward; inside	
-ing	suffix		present tense verb
-is	suffix		noun
-ism	suffix	belief in, practice of	noun
-ity	suffix		noun
ject	root	throw	
jud	root	to judge	
-ly	suffix		adjective or adverb
-ment	suffix		noun
mire (mira, mirac)	root	to wonder at	
noc	root	to harm, to injure	
-or	suffix	someone who	noun
ordin	root	order	
-ory	suffix	a place	noun
-ous	suffix		adjective
pathy	combining form	feeling, perception	
per-	prefix	through, across	
peril	root	danger	
pleas (plac)	root	to please, peacefulness	
pre-	prefix	before	
press	root	to push down	
pro-	prefix	on behalf of, to go before, to go in front of	

re-	prefix	back, again	
render	root	to give up	
-s	suffix	more than one	plural noun present tense verb
sacr	root	sacred, holy, religious	
satis	root	enough	
sci	root	knowledge, to know	
se-	root	apart from, by yourself	
senti	root	feeling	
sequ	root	follow, following	
sist	root	stand firm	
spic (spec)	root	to see, to look at	
spir (spira)	root	breath of life, soul, spirit	
sub-	prefix	under	
sur-	prefix	above	
sus-	prefix	under	
sym	combining form	with, together	
tali	root	punishment, payment in kind	
tect	root	to cover	
terri (terra)	root	land	
test (testi)	root	witness, one who stands by	
-tion	suffix		noun
un-	prefix	not	
-ure	suffix		noun
vant (vance)	root	move forward	
venge	root	to punish, to inflict damage	
vic (vinc, vict)	root	conquer, win	
volu (volv)	root	bend, turn, turn around	
vulner	root	able to get hurt	
-y	suffix		adjective

## Vocabulary: Contrasts

### Context:

“With his piercing gaze, [Mr. Ocax] surveyed the lands he called his own, watching for the creatures he considered his subjects.” (blurb)

“The territory around Dimwood *belongs* to him. Mr. Ocax is king.”  
(A: p. 10; H: p. 10)

### Target Words:

# subjects vs. king

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What it is...

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I'll remember this word by:

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I'll remember this word by:

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## Vocabulary: Contrasts

### Context:

When reading fantasy stories, readers can expect one character in the story to be a hero, and one character in the story to be a villain.

“The Gray House mice need a hero. To lead her family to a better life, will Poppy battle Mr. Ocax to the end?” (blurb)

### Target Words:

# hero vs. villain

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I'll remember this word by:

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## consequences

Context:

“ ‘It’s not as if I haven’t warned these mice,’ Mr. Ocax murmured to himself. ‘If they will move without my permission, they have only themselves to blame for the consequences.’ ” (A: p. 3; H: p. 3)

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What it is not...

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I’d probably find this word in these contexts (places, events, people, situations):

Text to World

I’ll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## satisfaction

Context:

“Of all the creatures the owl hunted, he enjoyed the mice the most...Mr. Ocax found deep satisfaction in having others afraid of him.” (A: p. 2; H: p. 2)

“The mouse disappeared down his throat, earring and all. His hunger momentarily satisfied, Mr. Ocax tilted back his head and let forth a long, low cry of triumph.”  
(A: p. 6; H: p. 8)

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What it is not...

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I'd probably find this word in these contexts (places, events, people, situations):

Text to World

I'll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)



# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## persistence

Context:

“[Ragweed] was always asking for answers...Poppy admired Ragweed’s persistence.” (A: p. 11; H: p. 11)

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**What it is not...**

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## protects

Context:

“Mr. Ocax protects us from creatures that eat us...Raccoons, foxes, skunks, weasels, stoats... Most importantly he protects us from porcupines...Porcupines are our particular enemies.”  
(A: p. 11; H: p. 11)

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What it is not...

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# territory

Context:

“The territory around Dimwood belongs to him. Mr. Ocax is king.”  
(A: p. 10; H: p. 10)

“If there was one thing the owl hated more than a creature who neglected to ask permission to move about the territory, it was a creature who escaped punishment for not asking.”  
(A: p. 17; H: p. 17)

**What it is...**

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**What it is not...**

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## avenge

Context:

“How dare this mouse—this Poppy—escape! As Mr. Ocax sailed deep into Dimwood toward his secret lair, he vowed to avenge himself.” (A: p. 22; H: p. 22)

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What it is not...

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(word, phrase, sketch)

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

**crisis**

Context:

“A red flag was her father’s signal that the entire clan needed to gather for an emergency meeting. Something else of grave importance must have occurred.”  
(crisis is inferred, A: pp. 23–24; H: p. 24)

“But where’s Ragweed? Wasn’t he with you? Do you think he’ll have the common decency, not to mention the courtesy, to consider joining us at this moment of crisis?” (A: p. 25; H: p. 25)

**What it is...**

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**What it is not...**

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## Vocabulary: Contrasts

### Context:

“Poppy paused to look at her parents. Certain they would not be sympathetic, she decided to skip some parts of her story.” (A: p. 32; H: p. 32)

### Target Words:

# sympathetic vs. unsympathetic

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I'll remember this word by:

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# honor

Context:

“Straight and loyal. I admire that in a young mouse. Therefore, I have selected you, by way of a reward—and it is a grand one...I know it’s an unlooked-for honor.”  
(A: p. 31; H: p. 31)

“Above all, remember, it’s an honor that you were selected to go.”  
(A: p. 38; H: p. 38)

**What it is...**

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**What it is not...**

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**Text to World**

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**(word, phrase, sketch)**

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# generosity

Context:

“Mr. Ocax, famous for his kindness, generosity, and compassion...” (A: p. 52; H: p. 52)

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**What it is not...**

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## guilty conscience

Context:

“She kept asking herself why she had ever gone to the hill with Ragweed without asking permission. She knew better. Look at all the trouble she’d caused. Just then she hated herself for having loved Ragweed.” (guilty conscience is inferred, A: pp. 57–58; H: pp. 57–58)

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Text to World

I’ll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## sacrifice

Context:

“Then, too, there was [Mr. Oca’s] hint that he would change his mind if she sacrificed herself. The mere hint of such a thing gave Poppy the horrors. She drew herself into a tighter ball.” (A: p. 61; H: p. 61)

“...if what she and Ragweed had done was the reason for keeping others from moving and being safe, maybe she should sacrifice herself. A tear trickled down her face, rolled to the end of a whisker, and dropped into her pillow.” (A: p. 61; H: p. 62)

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Text to World

I’ll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## desire

Context:

“The graceful drift of clouds reminded Poppy of her secret desire, something she had never told anyone, not even Ragweed...her greatest desire was to be a ballroom dancer.” (A: pp. 72–73; H: pp. 72–73)

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I'd probably find this word in these contexts (places, events, people, situations):

Text to World

I'll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# confidence

Context:

“...she gave a leap and landed deftly on the first of the rocks, then the second, and the third.  
On she jumped, gaining confidence as she progressed.”  
(A: p. 77; H: p. 78)

**What it is...**

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**What it is not...**

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**Text to World**

**I'll remember this word by connecting it to:**

**(word, phrase, sketch)**

# Vocabulary: Contrasts

## Context:

“She considered going back. She wanted to. But then she thought about what would happen if she did return with nothing to report to Lungwort about Mr. Ocax. Life would be miserable.

It was so hard to be courageous. So hard to be a coward. So much easier to do nothing.

But if she did nothing, she would surely perish.”

(A: p. 87; H: p. 87)

## Target Words:

# courageous vs. cowardly

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I'll remember this word by:

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I'll remember this word by:

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# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# contradict

Context:

“Poppy didn’t like to contradict her father, but she doubted Mr. Oca’s calls were a joke. She rather suspected the owl was trying to scare them.” (A: p. 44; H: p. 44)

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Text to World

I’ll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)

# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

## admire

Context:

“He was always asking for answers...Poppy admired his persistence.”  
(A: p. 11; H: p. 11)

“‘I think Ragweed would have liked you,’ Poppy said with admiration.”  
(A: p. 105; H: p. 106)

What it is...

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What it is not...

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I'd probably find this word in these contexts (places, events, people, situations):

Text to World

I'll remember this word by connecting it to:

(word, phrase, sketch)

## Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# hopeful

Context:

“The notion that the owl was afraid of anything gave Poppy considerable pleasure. Perhaps he was afraid of other things as well. Feeling more hopeful, Poppy returned to the log’s threshold to wait for Ereth.” (A: p. 109; H: p. 109)

**What it is...**

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**What it is not...**

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**Text to World**

**I’ll remember this word by connecting it to:**

**(word, phrase, sketch)**



# Vocabulary: Making Connections

Target Word:

# vulnerable

Context:

“Compared with the fallow fields the mice scoured near Gray House, the profusion of food here was a marvel. Was it this rich field that Mr. Ocas wished to hide? Did he want her family to go hungry? All that searching for food out in the open did make them more vulnerable.” (A: p. 121; H: p. 122)

**What it is...**

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**What it is not...**

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**Text to World**

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**(word, phrase, sketch)**