What are Power Words?

Hundreds of Newsela articles now have 3-5 Power Words embedded at each reading level. Students learn vocabulary as they read Newsela articles.

Power Words are research-based, high frequency, high utility vocabulary words used across a range of texts.

Power Words are clickable to reveal student-friendly definitions of the words as they're used in the article. (Dictionaries can't do that!)

Rawitzer has had dogs all her life, usually rescues. This time, too, she went to the local humane society first. They had Chihuahuas and pit bulls, 6 months old, heredity and temperaments unknown. “I was not going to chance it,” Rawitzer said. “You don’t know what you’re getting.”

What are Power Word activities?

Students can complete Power Word activities in the student workbook panel after reading the article. These activities are intended to be quick, low-stakes questions that provide students with a second exposure to the Power Words, and a chance to practice the words in a new context.

Each article has Power Word activities. There are 3-5 Power Words in each article, so students will practice each word twice in different ways. Upon completing the activities, students will receive points based on the number of activity questions answered correctly. Students can track points in their Word Wall.
How does the student Word Wall work?

After completing the question activity, a Student's Power Words will be added to their individual Word Wall.

The Word Wall is a visual and fun way to track words learned throughout the school year. Students collect words while reading to expand their vocabulary and earn achievements through activities to build confidence.