VOCABULARY AND READING COMPREHENSION: A TWO-WAY STREET

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“Successful reading comprehension depends on good vocabulary knowledge. The meanings of key words are essential to understand each sentence, and, in addition, vocabulary knowledge supports the inferences that aid the integration of meanings across sentences. There is also evidence for reciprocity between the two: reading comprehension, and in particular inference, may serve to extend and develop vocabulary knowledge. I will present empirical support for this conceptualization of vocabulary and reading comprehension as a two-way street and discuss its potential impact on language and literacy development.”

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