



## Get Ready for our Vocabulary Parade! A Guide for Families

### Who participates?

### When is it?

### What is it all about?

Vocabulary parades have become a popular event at schools around the country. It all began with the fabulously creative picture book, *Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster*, a story that celebrates words and definitions. The characters in the book participate in a Vocabulary Parade and contest – and the idea has really caught on! Vocabulary parades are a wonderful way to celebrate our love of words and reading. It also provides a fun *and* academic focus for dressing up in creative homemade costumes.

### How do we get ready?

#### 1) Plan

Think of a “juicy” word that would have an interesting costume design. Think about unusual words that others may not already know. Look at the lists of words sent home for ideas.

#### 2) Create

You can recycle all sorts of items around your home to make a creative homemade costume: boxes, poster-board, hats, paper bags, fabric, tin foil, etc.

#### 3) Make a Vocabulary Card/Label

Remember to make a large card or sign with your vocabulary word on it, so we’ll know which word you represent in the parade. You can carry the word, make a headband or hat, or have it as part of your costume. Your word just needs to be visible somewhere on you!

#### 4) Come Prepared

Bring your costume to school with you. Make sure you can put on your costume by yourself, and that you have all of the parts.

For inspiration in creating your costume, there are lots of great ideas online. For example, check out the slideshow of costumes at [www.debrafrasier.com/pages/books/msa.html#\\_costumes](http://www.debrafrasier.com/pages/books/msa.html#_costumes)