Objective: The student will name items related to a theme.

Evidence Base: Using a list of words to develop a map of relationships is an effective method to learn and remember categories (Honig, Diamond, & Gutlohn, 2000).

Directions:
1) Before the lesson, print out six copies of the blank word web provided on the CD-ROM. Depending on the student’s writing ability, you may complete the word webs or ask the student to complete them.

2) Introduce the activity and demonstrate how to use the word web. For example, write the theme “airport” in the center of the word web and say, “Let’s talk about airports. Tell me some things that go with airports or that you might find at an airport.”

3) Supply one or two responses to get the student started, or use prompting questions such as, “What kind of machines might be at an airport?”

4) Reinforce sensible responses and write them on the lines that extend from the center of the word web. Query nonsensical responses.

5) Repeat the activity using the other themes listed below.

Group Modification: Ask students to take turns naming items related to the theme. You may either complete a single word web as a class or ask each student to complete his or her own word web.

Themes
airport
making a sandwich
construction site
cooking spaghetti
a baby’s room
furniture store

Standards Link
Name and describe two to three objects that are related to a concept.
– Idaho Content Standards—Language Arts