

Vocabulary • Context Clues

- **Multiple-meaning words** are words that have different meanings depending on how they are used.
- Use **context clues**, or the words around a multiple-meaning word, to figure out which meaning is used.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below. Look for context clues that show the correct meanings of the multiple-meaning words as you read.

It's hard to find **rich** soil in the city, so most city people can't **grow** their own food. Instead they go to the supermarket. Each kind of food is always in the same place. That way shoppers can go **right** to

the items they need. Then they rush home and **store** the food in their kitchen so it won't get **spoiled**. It's not good to shop when you're hungry. Hungry shoppers buy everything they see!

1. What clue lets you know that *rich* means “having lots of nutrition,” not “having lots of money”?

2. In this passage, does *grow* mean “to get bigger” or “to make something get bigger”?

3. What clue words tell you that *right* means “directly”?

4. What are two meanings for *store*? What clues tell you the word's meaning in this passage?

5. In this passage does *spoiled* describe people or pets who get everything they want or does it mean “became rotten”?



Home Activity Your child used context clues to understand multiple-meaning words. Say sentences with multiple-meaning words, such as *run*, *place*, and *blue*. Ask your child to use context clues to determine the meaning of each word.