

Unit 9

Vocabulary Cards

Skills Strand
GRADE 3

Core Knowledge Language Arts®



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explorer

a person who sets out to find new things
(**exploration, explorations, explorers,
explored, exploring**)

conquistador

a former warrior, usually from Spain,
who took control of something by force
(**conquistadors**)

slash

to make a path by cutting plants
(**slashed**)

fundings

money provided for a special purpose

precious

very valuable

Unit 9: Chapter 1

spice

a substance from a plant that has a specific smell or taste and is used to add flavor to food (**spices**)

scarce

hard to find

Unit 9: Chapter 1

expensive

costs a lot of money

peppercorn

a dried berry from a plant that is used to
make pepper (**peppercorns**)

grind

to crush something into small pieces or
powder (**ground**)

flavor

taste (**flavors**)

Unit 9: Chapter 1

hull

the outer covering of a seed or fruit

kernel

seed

Unit 9: Chapter 1

overwhelm

to take over completely

import

to bring in from somewhere else
(imported)

scroll

a paper rolled up into a tube (**scrolls**)

inherit

to receive money, property, and other things when someone dies (**inherits, inherited**)

estate

everything a person owns

Unit 9: Chapter 2

throne

the power and authority of a king or
queen

noble

a person from a family of high social rank, similar to patricians in ancient Rome (**nobles**)

property

buildings, land, and livestock that
someone owns

impressive

deserving attention or respect

overrun

to exist in large numbers

whiz

a person who is extremely skilled at something

voyage

a long journey, usually by water

convince

to talk someone into something by
giving good reasons (**convinced**)

expect

to think something will probably
happen (**expected**)

landmark

an object on land that is easy to see and
recognize (**landmarks**)

device

a piece of equipment that does a specific
job

accurate

correct

Unit 9: Chapter 4

keep track

to continue to be aware of (**keeping track, kept track**)

compass

a tool used for finding directions with
a magnetic pointer that always points
north

magnet

a piece of metal that attracts iron or steel and has a north and south pole;
Earth is a magnet. (**magnets**)

magnetic field

the area around each pole of a magnet
that has the power to attract other
metals

gadget

a small tool (**gadgets**)

Unit 9: Chapter 4

method

a way of doing things

Unit 9: Chapter 4

dead reckoning

a way to measure speed when traveling through water by throwing a knotted rope with a piece of wood on the end overboard and observing how much of and how fast the rope is pulled into the water

hourglass

a tool for measuring time; It is a glass container with an upper part and lower part connected in the middle by a narrow tube and sand falls from the upper part into the lower part in a fixed amount of time, usually an hour.

forerunner

something that came before

Unit 9: Chapter 4

estimate

(verb) to make a guess based on information you have; (noun) a guess made based on information you have

fort

a large building constructed to survive
enemy attacks

establish

to start something that is meant to last a
long time (**established**)

continuously

without stopping

Unit 9: Chapter 5

occupied

lived and worked in

Unit 9: Chapter 5

destroy

to completely ruin so that it no longer
exists (**destroyed**)

wreck

to destroy, ruin (**wrecked**)

bastion

a raised gun platform in a fort

fossil

a bone, shell, or other remains of a plant or animal from millions of years ago that has formed rock (**fossils**)

shatter

to suddenly break into many small
pieces

moat

a deep ditch, usually filled with water,
dug around a fort or castle to prevent
enemy attacks

ravelin

a small building you must pass through
first in order to enter a fort or castle

fortress

a strong fort

Unit 9: Chapter 5

plain

a large, flat area of land with no trees
(**plains**)

distant

far away

Unit 9: Chapter 6

boast

to brag (**boasted**)

vast

very great in size or amount

league

a distance between 2.4 and 4.6 miles

tan

to turn animal skin into leather using a
specific process

barbarous

wild, sometimes violent

Unit 9: Chapter 6

royal

relating to a king or queen

lordship

authority and power of a lord or high-ranking person

copper

a reddish-brown mineral found in the
earth

viceroi

a person sent by the king to rule a colony

prune

a dried plum (**prunes**)

mulberry

a dark purple berry (**mulberries**)

humble

respectful, not thinking you are better
than others

vassal

a person who is loyal and serves a lord
or king

substantially

great in size, value, or importance

equator

an imaginary line around the middle of the earth that is equally far from both the North Pole and South Pole

charter

a formal document that gives rights to a person or group of people; Kings often issued charters to explorers so explorers would search for land and treasure on behalf of the king.

claim

to say something belongs to you
(**claims, claimed**)

attempt

an act of trying

Unit 9: Chapter 7

shortage

when there is not enough

shallow

not deep

Unit 9: Chapter 7

expedition

a long trip made for a specific purpose
(**expeditions**)

landmass

a large, continuous area of land, such as
a continent

territory

a large area of land with defined
boundaries

ashore

on land

Unit 9: Chapter 7

page

a boy servant (**pages**)

Unit 9: Chapter 7

bilge pump

a device used to remove water from the
bottom part of a ship

hardtack

hard bread that has been baked many
times

spoil

to become rotten and not able to be
eaten

weevil

a small beetle (**weevils**)

scurvy

a disease caused by not eating enough fruits or vegetables with vitamin C, leading to spongy gums, loose teeth, skin spots, and sometimes death

watch

the time that someone is on duty to
guard or protect something

solid

firm and hard

Unit 9: Chapter 8

iceberg

a large mass of ice floating in the ocean
(**icebergs**)

maize

corn

Unit 9: Chapter 8

expanse

a large, open area

trade

(verb) to exchange something you have for something someone else has; (noun) the act of exchanging goods (**traders, traded, trading**)

in exchange

the act of giving something and
receiving something of similar value in
return

pelt

an animal skin with fur still on it (**pelts**)

felt

thick cloth made from wool, fur, or
other fibers

trading post

a place far away from towns where
people buy, sell, and trade things
(**trading posts**)

fine

excellent (**finest**)

lush

covered with healthy, green plants

treaty

a formal agreement between groups of people, often to stop fighting (**treaties**)

obtain

to get (**obtained**)

barter

to trade by exchanging goods and services instead of paying or accepting money for them

income

money earned, mostly from working

raid

to attack by surprise (**raiding**)

abandon

to leave somewhere, never to return
(abandoned)

evidence

information that helps show if
something is either true or not true

steer

to control the direction of

cheap

does not cost much

popular

liked by many people