**Choosing Words Tier Two Words**

**Group members:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Below is the opening paragraph of a retelling of an old tale (Kohnke, 2001, p. 12) about a donkey who is under a magical spell that forces him to do the chores for a group of lazy servants. The story would likely be of interest to third and fourth graders.

Johnny Harrington was a kind master who treated his servants fairly. He was also a successful wool merchant, and his business required that he travel often. In his absence, his servants would tend to the fields and cattle and maintain the upkeep of his mansion. They performed their duties happily, for they felt fortunate to have such a benevolent and trusting master.

1. List words that are likely to be unfamiliar to students.
2. Analyze each word chosen to see if it meets the ***Criteria for Identifying Tier Two Words*** by answering the following questions:
3. Does this word appear frequently in a variety of texts and in written and oral language?
4. Would students be able to explain this word using words already known to them?
5. Will this word help my students describe with greater specificity people and situations with which they already have some familiarity?
6. On the basis of your analysis, which words can be categorized as Tier Two words?

***Now that we know the words to teach, we need to assess each student’s level of knowledge on each of the words.***