



5. Allow students to share highlighted words as you write them on the board.
6. Conduct a class discussion of each word asking students to define them using prior knowledge or context clues from the article.
7. Instruct students to confirm their definitions using available resource materials. (dictionary, internet, etc.)
8. Work as a class to complete one or both of the following “Making Words” activities.

### **Making Words- On Your Own**

1. Students use craft sticks with given letters to form as many one-letter words a possible. In this case, the correct number of words is “none.”
2. Continue to form words with 2,3,4,5, letters and share findings.
3. Challenge students to use all the letters to spell the mystery word that goes along with the article. (ecosystem)

Key:

- 2 letter words: me, to so, my, etc.
- 3letter words: met, set, yes, toy, cots, etc.
- 4 letter words: stem, seem, toys, etc.

### **Making Words- Teacher Says**

1. Students use craft sticks to follow the teacher directions below:
  - a. Arrange needed sticks to form the word “so.”
  - b. Change one letter to form the word “to.”
  - c. Add a letter to form the word “toy.”
  - d. Add a letter to form the plural of this word. (toys)  
  - a. Arrange four letters to make the word “seem.”
  - b. Change one letter to make the word “stem.”
  - c. Add one letter to make the word “stems.”  
  - a. Arrange four letters to make the word “most.
  - b. Change one letter to make the word “cost.”
  - c. Change one letter to make the word “cyst.”
  - d. Add one letter to form it’s plural. (cysts)

\* Teachers may develop additional direction sets and/or challenge students to do so.

Use all the letters on the craft sticks to form the secret word that goes along with the River Basins article.

