

Name _____

Rare Words Mastery Answer Key

1. **Precipitous** - Very steep or high; clue: "cliff... towering over the valley."
2. **Zephyr** - Gentle breeze; adds calmness or lightness to the scene.
3. **Idiosyncratic** - Unique or individual in style; clue: "no two works looked alike."
4. **Boundless** - Without limits; describes endless creativity.
5. **Nocturnal** - Active at night; clue: "calls of owls and crickets."
6. **Stealth** - Quiet, secret movement; clue: "fox moved quietly beneath the trees."

Teacher's Guide

- **Purpose:** Strengthens word recognition and contextual understanding of rare vocabulary through reading and analysis.
- **Teaching Tips:**
 - Encourage students to highlight or underline clues that helped them identify meanings.
 - Discuss how context shapes understanding-have students rephrase the sentences using simpler synonyms.
- **Differentiation:**
 - *Support:* Provide a mini word bank with meanings for reference.
 - *Challenge:* Ask advanced students to add one more sentence using each rare word correctly.
- **Engagement Idea:** Turn the activity into a "Word Safari Expedition" where students "collect" rare words from other readings throughout the week.
- **Extension Activity:** Have students write a short creative paragraph using at least three of the rare words from the worksheet.