

Name _____

Rare Word Sleuth Answer Key

1. **Verdant** - green and lush; clue: "after the rain," "every leaf seemed to glow."
2. **Cadence** - rhythm or flow of voice; clue: "rising and falling like waves."
3. **Zephyr** - a light breeze; clue: "drifted through the open window," "cooled the classroom."
4. **Tenacity** - determination; clue: "never gave up."
5. **Valor** - bravery; clue: "on the battlefield," "inspiring songs."
6. **Eccentric** - unusual or odd; clue: "painting at midnight," "mismatched shoes."

Teacher's Guide

- **Model First:** Read one passage aloud, think aloud to show how to identify context clues (look for synonyms, explanations, or descriptive phrases).
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - *Support:* Provide a word bank for struggling readers.
 - *Challenge:* Ask advanced students to write their own sentences using each word.
- **Engagement Idea:** Turn it into a "word detective" activity-students highlight clues in color before defining each word.
- **Extension Activity:** Have students collect one "rare" word each week and present how they discovered its meaning from context.