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## **Using Wordle: A Fun Tool to Show Frequency, Purpose and Direction**

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**Abstract:** Have you ever seen a Wordle? It's that funny jumble of words that are all different sizes and directions. Whether working with youth or adults, Wordles can be a powerful visual tool that can help a group discover key themes, help an individual display main thoughts from a paper, and can provide artwork or visuals for reports, marketing materials, etc. You can make one in less than five minutes. Learn how here.

### Introduction

#### Using Wordle: A Fun Tool to Show Frequency, Purpose and Direction

Most everyone has probably seen a Wordle, even if you didn't know what it was called. It's that funny jumble of words that are all different sizes and directions. But have you ever created one or thought about how you could use one? Whether working with youth or adults, Wordles can be a powerful visual tool. Wordles can:

- help get your point across during a meeting (make one in real time)
- help a group discover key themes from meeting minutes, strategic plans, publications/marketing materials, or other group documents
- help an individual display main thoughts from a paper
- provide artwork or visuals for reports, marketing materials, etc.

So how do you add this powerful, meaningful visual to your next meeting? It's easy. Just go online to Wordle (<http://Wordle.net>), copy/paste in a little or a lot of text, and use the resulting imagery to show your group what matters most.

Wordle uses an algorithm to provide visual representation of word-frequency, i.e., the most-used words from your source-text show up in largest print. And you can tweak the cloud



