**VOCABULARY LIST**

**Opioids: What You Need to Know**

Find the article at: [scholastic.com/headsup/opioids](http://scholastic.com/headsup/opioids)

---

**addiction (noun):** a brain disorder or illness associated with compulsive (uncontrollable) behavior, such as drug use, despite negative consequences.

**addictive (adjective):** something, such as a drug, that causes changes to the brain that result in compulsive (uncontrollable) behavior despite negative consequences.

**administer (verb):** to dispense or give out, such as a medication.

**crave (verb):** to have an intense desire for something.

**crisis (noun):** a situation that has reached an unstable point and that has a high chance of having a negative outcome.

**fentanyl (noun):** an opioid drug made in laboratories that is much stronger (50 times) than other legal opioids. Even a very small amount can cause a deadly overdose.

**naloxone (noun):** an emergency medication used to reverse the effects of opioid overdose and restore breathing. If it is used quickly enough, naloxone can prevent a person from dying of overdose.

**overdose (noun):** a deadly or toxic amount of a drug; (verb) to take a deadly or toxic amount of a drug.

**prescription medication (noun):** a medication that must be ordered by a doctor before it can be dispensed (given out).

**surge (noun):** a sudden increase to an excessive or high amount.

**synthetic (adjective):** produced by a chemical process.

**withdrawal symptom (noun):** something that happens in the body of a person addicted to a drug when the person stops taking the drug.