

Learning to Achieve

Appendix

Activity: Using a Graphic Organizer – Part 1 (Slide 34)

Purpose

To practice preparing a graphic organizer.

Tasks

1. Break into assigned groups.
2. Identify a group facilitator to: a) ensure equal participation, b) keep time, c) ensure that the group finishes the task.
3. Read the directions for your group below and the reading passage on global warming on the next page.
4. Work as a group to produce at least two filled in graphic organizers for the reading passage.
5. Identify two group members who will present and explain how you decided the information you put in your graphic organizer.

Directions for Each Group

Group 1: Word Wall

You will focus on vocabulary using the Word Wall graphic organizer template. Select four words from the passage that may cause difficulties for learners with LD. Use the Word Wall graphic organizer to develop a sheet that could be modeled for learners on how to learn vocabulary. Use the Word Wall graphic organizer to help the learner acquire new vocabulary in a way that is meaningful and links the new words to existing knowledge. Refer to the Word Wall example to guide your work.

Group 2: Main Idea and Details

You will focus on the structure of information using the Main Idea and Details graphic organizer template. Select three important main ideas and use the Main Idea and Details graphic organizer to write the main ideas and details, then tie the information together at the bottom with the “So what?” question. This graphic organizer helps the learner restructure the content and pinpoint the important main ideas. Refer to the Main Idea and Details example to guide your work.

Group 3: Concept Elaboration

You will focus on higher order thinking using the Concept Elaboration graphic organizer template. You write “global warming” in the “IDEA” square at the top, then fill in the remaining boxes. Remember that content learning is more than learning facts, it also involves higher order thinking processes like comparing and contrasting, facts vs. opinions, drawing inferences, elaborating, summarizing, and interpreting. This graphic organizer helps the learner engage in these higher order processes. Refer to the Concept Elaboration example to guide your work.

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Reading Passage on Global Warming

There is scientific consensus that the earth is warming and that it will keep getting warmer if we don't do anything about it. One of the main causes of global warming is the burning of fossil fuels like oil and coal, which cause greenhouse gases to escape into the air. Deforestation is another cause because it eliminates trees which might otherwise remove carbon dioxide, one of the greenhouse gases, from the air.

Global warming is already having an effect on our planet. Sea levels are rising, polar ice is melting, and some animals are already being forced to move to new habitats. If the warming gets worse, as scientists expect, some species of plants and animals will become extinct because they can't adapt to the new climate. There may be more hurricanes and floods and other extreme weather events. Sea levels may rise further, forcing coastal populations to move inland and contributing to overcrowding. Agricultural yields may be affected, and food shortages may result.

Global warming is a very challenging problem, and people are having difficulty agreeing on solutions. Some people think that the federal government should enforce laws to reduce global warming, while other people think that solutions must come from private enterprise and individual actions. Many states and businesses in the United States are not waiting for federal solutions and are instead taking action at state and local levels.

Individuals need not wait for government action to do something about global warming. By conserving energy, individuals can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thereby help slow global warming. Simple actions like turning off lights, TVs, computers, and appliances can add up to major effects. Low-cost actions like switching to fluorescent bulbs and keeping air filters in furnaces and air conditioners clean can have similar benefits. Driving less by carpooling, using public transportation, and consolidating trips

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can reduce production of greenhouse gases, and also save money for the individual.

Adapted from <http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-basics/kidspage.cfm>

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Word Wall Template

Word Castles (basic)

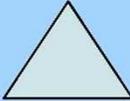
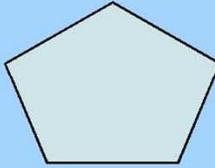
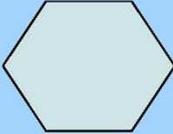
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Name _____

	Definition	Picture	Knowledge Connection
Term			

Word Wall Example

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Word Walls			
New Word	Definition	Picture	Knowledge Connection
triangle	3 sides 3 angles “tri” means 3		Looks like a pyramid
quadrilateral	4 sides 4 angles “quad” means 4		Looks like a box
pentagon	5 sided box; 5 angle “pent” means 5		Looks like a house
hexagon	6 sided box; 6 angles “hex” means 6		Looks like a stop sign

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Main Idea and Details Template

Is about ... © 2005 Edwin Eillis www.GraphicOrganizers.com

Main Idea

Details

Main Idea

Details

Main Idea

Details

So what? What is important to understand about this?

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Main Idea and Details Example

Muscle Tissue

Is about ...

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a major component of a mammal's body that provides movement and proper organ function

Main Idea

Skeletal Muscle

Details

Voluntary Muscles

Consciously controlled
to cause movement

Main Idea

Smooth Muscle

Details

Involuntary Muscles

Lines organs and handles
the unconscious tasks of
the body like breathing,
digestion, etc.

Main Idea

Cardiac Muscle

Details

Form the walls of the
Heart

Contracts rhythmically
24 hours a day

So what? What is important to understand about this?

Muscle tissue is important for a mammal's survival.

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Concept Elaboration Template

Idea Clear Table

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IDEA			
<i>is about...</i>			
<i>Words that describe the idea...</i>			
Key things ASSOCIATED with this idea	Ways idea is transformed into ACTIONS	Don't confuse this idea with...	IMPACT of the idea then and/or now
Knowledge Connections			
This idea makes you think of...	Because...		

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Appendix (continued)

Concept Elaboration Template

Idea Clear Table

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IDEA <i>Freedom of Speech</i>			
<i>is about...</i> People being free to express themselves without fear of being punished by the government			
<i>Words that describe the idea...</i> Express beliefs, concerns, opinions, creativity, support, criticism, etc.			
Key things ASSOCIATED with this idea Bill of Rights Democracy ACLU No freedom of speech = Tyranny Freedom of the press Must be actual or an opinion	Ways idea is transformed into ACTIONS People criticizing elected official on TV Politicians criticizing each other during an election	Don't confuse this idea with... Speech that causes harm to others Yelling "fire" in a movie theater when there isn't one An untruth that results in harm or lost opportunities	IMPACT of the idea then and/or now Protects our democracy by promoting communication Lack of this freedom allows tyrants to punish anyone who opposes them
Knowledge Connections			
This idea makes you think of... The Presidential election	Because... Allowed us to express why we are for or against candidates without fearing what would happen to us		