

KNOW, WANT TO KNOW, LEARNED (KWL - KWLH)

This strategy involves the whole class or groups of children listing facts they already know about a topic or a selection. The children brainstorm for questions they would like to answer about a topic or selection. This strategy can also be effective when used at different stages during the development of a theme.

MATERIALS:

chart paper, paper strips, cards, overhead transparencies, pens markers, crayons

PROCEDURES:

- The teacher introduces a topic or theme.
- The children brainstorm facts that they already know about the topic or theme.
- The teacher records the information on a transparency or chart labelled – “Things We Know”.
- The children are then asked to brainstorm questions they would like answered about the topic or theme.
- The teacher records the questions on a transparency or chart labeled “Things We Want to Know” leaving space under each question to record the answer.
- The teacher reads a book, shows a film or filmstrip or plays a tape about the topic.
- After viewing or listening to the resource material, the children confirm or reject information on the chart-“Things We Know” (i.e.: put a check mark beside correct information and draw a line through incorrect information or put T-for true or F-for false beside predictions).
- The children then provide answers to the questions on the chart “Things We Want to Know”.
- The teacher records the answers on the chart.
- The teacher may need to provide further resource material in order to answer all the questions.
- The children may wish to pose more questions for the chart – “Things We Want to Know” as the theme or topic develops.
- The charts should be posted in the classroom for the children to refer to, and added to throughout the unit.

EXTENSIONS:

- note-taking
- independent research
- internet use
- Story Webs to consider – KWL, KWLH