

List-Group-Label

Wisconsin State Standards Strand

Language

- Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

Grade Level
6-12

Purpose

Use to introduce new vocabulary:
explicitly introduce new words

When to Use
Before Reading

Grouping
Whole Group
Small Group
Partners
Individuals

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

LIST-GROUP-LABEL is a semantic map strategy that helps students improve their vocabulary and categorization skills and learn to organize concepts. This strategy helps students organize new concepts in relation to previously learned concepts through grouping and labeling words. It actively engages students in learning new vocabulary and content by activating their critical thinking skills. Word learning requires multiple exposures to the word within meaningful contexts.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

- Select a main concept in a reading selection.
- Establish the purpose of the strategy.
- List: Have students brainstorm all the words they think relate to the topic. Visually display student responses. At this point, do not critique students responses. Some words may not reflect the main concept, but hopefully students will realize this as they begin grouping the words in the next step.
- Group: Divide your class into small groups. Each group will work to cluster the class list of words into subcategories. As groups of words emerge, challenge your students to explain their reasoning for placing words together or discarding them.
- Label: Invite students to suggest a title or label for the groups of words they have formed. These labels should related to their reasoning for the grouping.

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Teacher observation
- Conferencing
- Student work

RESEARCH

Rosenbaum, C. (2001). A word map for middle school: A tool for effective vocabulary instruction. *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, 45(1), 44-49.

Winters, R. (2009). Interactive frames for vocabulary growth and word consciousness. *The Reading Teacher*, 62(8), 685-690.

