



Science - Water Cycle Unit - Watershed Activity

Visual Vocab

Visual Vocab is a tool used to introduce new terms to students at the start of a unit. It includes the term, definition, and a visual image that is a real-life representation of the word. The image is the anchor of this new word, or the piece that brings the new term to meaning for the students.

How to use Visual Vocab: Cut all pieces of the visual vocab list so that the term is separate from the definition, which is also separate from the picture. Mix all the pieces together so everything is jumbled up. Then, try to match the pieces back together. Allow for trial and error and discussion as to why they chose a particular picture for that word. Ask prompts such as, *“What is the picture showing?”* *“Does it match what the definition is saying?”* *“Can it fit another definition better?”* Then, once the student is finished arranging, go through and discuss each term, definition, and image.

Videos

Videos are a helpful tool to acquire background knowledge for the student. Having the child watch the video before introducing the corresponding lesson helps to prep their brain for the lesson and topic. This background knowledge can allow for a deeper understanding of the content.

How to use Videos: After discussing new terms in the Visual Vocab, watch the video once all the way through. Then, rewatch the video, pausing to converse on new concepts introduced, and what the child is taking away, or understanding.

Images:

How to use various Water Cycle images: After introducing the topic of the water cycle with the Visual Vocab and video, show multiple images of the water cycle to the student. Ask the student what is noticed in the pictures. Allow for their thoughts to be spoken freely. Once they are finished, ask more prompting questions that they may have glanced over, such as *“What are some differences you notice in the pictures?”* *“What are some similarities?”* *“What do you think will happen if a piece of the cycle is missing, such as lower precipitation?”*

Materials

Use materials found inside your home or background. Please check the Watershed Materials page for suggestions.

Build it! - Have fun putting together your personal Watershed Model!