

Student Generated Questioning

Description

These are activities which engage students in developing questions during or following instruction.

Purpose

Student Generated Questioning is a way for teachers to assess student comprehension during or after activities or an entire unit of study. It also provides opportunities for reinforcement of what has been learned and leads students to higher order thinking. Students reflect upon their learning and consider what they know, what they thought they knew, what they want to know more about, and what they still want to learn.

Connection to Inquiry and Standards:

Students ask questions and make observations to find answers to their questions. Student generated questioning includes students asking who, what, when, where, why, and how questions. The technique requires careful listening and use of speaking skills, PA Reading/Writing/Speaking/Listening Standard 1.6.

Materials

Copies of Question Wheel or other graphic organizer for students to record their questions. Or copies of Matrix Cube. Paper.

Procedure

The teacher structures opportunities for students to develop questions regarding the information covered in the activities, reading selections, or unit of study. Students are given a copy of the Question Wheel, other graphic organizer to complete, or a Matrix Cube. Students generate who, what, where, when, why, and how questions. For the Question Wheel, students are assisted in writing questions through the suggestion of verbs. The Matrix Cube incorporates Bloom's taxonomy and cooperative learning. Students roll a die that is labeled with a pre-specified question word. (A blank Matrix Cube is attached.) One student forms the question using the word, one student paraphrases the question, another student answers the question, and a fourth student records the question and answer.

Resource

Wiederhold, Chuck (1995). Cooperative learning and higher level thinking : the Q-matrix. San Juan Capistrano, Calif. : Kagan Cooperative Learning.