

Anticipation Guide

An anticipation guide is a pre-reading strategy designed to build interest and determine prior knowledge about new content. It can also be used to assess learning at the end of a lesson, unit of study or after reading informational text.

Using an anticipation guide before beginning a unit or new passage of text helps students develop an interest in the new material. It provides a basis for class discussion that allows you to uncover various misconceptions or strongly held beliefs.

Procedure:

1. After selecting a text or passage for students to read, analyze the text for critical ideas, information and main issues.
2. Determine the key ideas and write several (3-8) statements that lead to discussion around the main points. Do not make the statements solely dependent upon the reading selection. Rather, create statements that students can reflect upon without having read the text. The statements should tap into prior knowledge.
3. Introduce the text and provide the following directions to the students:
 - Read each of the key ideas and note whether you agree or disagree (*see example below*)
 - Work with a partner or small group to discuss each of the ideas
 - Read the assigned text
 - Revisit the statements after reading the text to see if you still agree or disagree with the statements
4. Use the students' responses as the foundation for whole class discussion throughout the unit of study.

EXAMPLE

	Before Reading		After Reading	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
Almost three-fourths of the Earth is covered with salt water.				
The temperature of the ocean is the same all over the Earth.				
The place where the ocean meets the land is called a trench.				
Water pressure is the weight of water on objects and living things.				
Many kinds of plants and animals live in the ocean's sunlight zone.				

TEMPLATE

	Before Reading		After Reading	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree