

Glaciers Scramble Activity

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The text used is from “Glaciers, Climate, and the Landscape” book by Zach Smith

This activity is a good way of introducing terms or concepts when teaching a new material and is applicable to all ages. It is short, easy to prepare and modify, and fun to begin class with. You can turn it into a competition and provoke discussion after it. It is based on sentence construction – a widely used method for teaching language. Students will receive an envelope, in which they will find pieces of paper with words written on them. They have to arrange these words or phrases that make meaningful sentences.

Materials and preparation:

First you have to choose key sentences (or paragraph) for your class that will probably build up the lesson plan when placed in order. Then type them using at least 14 front size and leave space between rows that will make cutting easier. Print the page and cut each sentence into pieces that contain one or more words. You will need envelopes to put these pieces.

Recommended Procedures:

- Divide the class into small groups, for example 3 students in one group.
- Give each group an envelope in which the cut pieces of sentences are placed.
- Give the students some time (you will judge how much they need) to build up sentences that make sense and more time to discuss what questions do they have related to the concept.
- If the group is ready, check if they have worked correctly and
- Ask a member of each group to read the sentence or paragraph and share with the class the questions that arose.

In this sample activity you will find sentences ready to be cut and used from the following topics: Glaciers – introduction; Glacial History; Glacial Geology; and Glaciers and Climate.