

KWL Charts

Purpose: Activate students' prior knowledge, set goals for learning and discuss what was learned.

Strategy Procedures: Begin by giving each student a blank chart with areas for K, W and L. Ask the students what they already know about the topic and have them fill that out on the chart. Discuss some common goals for learning and fill these out under the Want to Know column. The next step is for the learning to take place. This could happen in the form of reading text or a direct instruction lesson. Following the learning, go back to the chart and fill in the What I Learned column. This is also the time in which you should look back at the Know column and see if any of them were incorrect. It is also important to look back at the Want to Know column to see if all questions were answered. If not, find these answers using another source.

Materials: Blank KWL charts for all students or overhead with a blank chart

Reference: Billmeyer, Rachel, & Barton, Mary Lee. (1998). *Teaching Reading in the Content Areas. If not me, then who?* Aurora, CO: McREL.