

Need It or Trash It!



1. Read the passage.
2. Re-read the passage. Circle the words that help you answer the focus question.
3. Keep the words that help you answer the focus question.
4. Trash the words that don't help answer the focus question.
5. Sort and categorize the words you keep.
6. Name the categories.
7. Trash the words you don't use.
8. Use the words to answer the focus question.

In the lesson:

- Students first identify key words on their own, after reading and re-reading the text.
- Students then work in groups to share key words and create one list. To be on the list, a word needs to help them answer the focus question.
- The groups put their key words on chart paper and post it. Two students lead class discussion, going through the words. For each word, they poll their classmates:
 - 1 – Keep
 - 2 – Trash
 - 3 – Cloud (not sure yet)
- The class votes.
- Student leaders call on a couple of students who signal 1 and a couple who signal 2 to explain why.
- The class votes again and the leaders either keep the word, cross it off, or note that it's in the cloud.
- The students then do a gallery walk and select the words they want to keep for themselves.

Jump In and Read

- Read four sentences.
- If you hear somebody start, and you jump in late, then you stop.
- If you look around and see somebody that hasn't jumped in before, you let them read.