



TOOLBOX OF IDEAS

K.I.M – Key Ideas, Information, Memory Clues

Students will use a graphic organizer (self created with foldables or teacher created) to organize his/her ideas from a given concept or unit that was completed or introduced in class.

The teacher will direct the students to list four or more “Key Ideas” that they have learned (post assessment) or know about a particular topic/concept (pre assessment)

The teacher will then model one “Key Idea” for a created topic/concept OR for the assigned topic/concept. The teacher will then ask students to brainstorm by bulleting information that the students know or think they know about the individual “key idea”. The teacher will then have the students create a topic sentence for that “Key Idea” underneath the “key idea” column. The teacher will then ask the students to give her something that will help them remember about the topic/concept – either using an illustration , word, or small phrase.

Once the teacher feels that the students are ready, they will then fill out a given graphic organizer or use a three to four column foldable.

The teacher will then direct the students to create a paragraph about each “Key Idea” – this reinforces the use of topic sentences and paragraphs that have been taught in ELA. Students may type up paragraphs or rewrite them on white lined paper and attach them to the KIM.

This strategy may be modified in several different ways:

- 1) Alter number of key ideas and information bullets – depending on ability
- 2) Pair students up or work individually
- 3) Limit size of paragraphs
- 4) Give students mini-notes or text that they may use as a resource
- 5) Have students do Think Pair Share for paragraphs
- 6) Create Graphic Organizer with some Key Ideas already listed and have students make up a different number based on ability

These are just a few ways to differentiate this strategy.