

Vocabulary Building Activity: Collage for Future Self

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Standards and Benchmarks (see page 3)

Activity Description

In this visual activity, students reflect upon their learning after participating in a lesson or unit. Students create a collage for their future self using images to describe what they've learned and what their future self should remember from the lesson or unit. Teachers save the collages and return them later, such as at the start of a lesson or unit that continues or requires the knowledge and skills depicted in the collages. Students should have time before a future lesson to look, reflect, and review their collages to activate prior knowledge and experiences.

Grade Level

K-2

Objectives

Students will be able to

- recall their learning about [lesson concept or topic],
 - explain the essential steps or information about [lesson concept or topic], and
 - illustrate their learning about [lesson concept or topic].
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Time Required

Day 1: 45 minutes

Day 2: 20 minutes

Materials

- 12" x 18" construction paper, one sheet for each student
 - Scissors, one pair for each student
 - Glue stick, one for each student
 - Drawing supplies, such as crayons, colored pencils, markers, etc.
 - Magazines
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- Printed-out class photos (optional)
- Materials to record students' responses (e.g., chart paper/markers, interactive whiteboard, etc.)
- Note-keeping system
- Computer and printer
- Pencil, one for each student

Procedure

Day 1

1. At the end of a lesson or a unit, engage the whole class in a discussion about what they learned and what they need to remember about the concept or topic. Record and display students' responses.
2. Introduce the activity: Explain to students that they will create a collage that shows their learning and the most important things they need to remember about the concept or topic.
3. Distribute construction paper, scissors, glue sticks, and drawing materials to students.
4. Place magazines in a central location in the classroom. If possible, print out any photos that were taken during the lesson or unit as a resource for students to include in their collages.
5. Students can cut out images from the magazines or draw their own.
6. Remind students they can refer to their shared responses (from Step 1) to help them organize their thinking.
7. Give students time to create their collages.
8. When students are finished, tell them to write their name on the back of their collage.

9. Individually, students present and share their collages, explaining what they learned.
 - Keep a record of what each student shares. As each student presents, record at least 2-3 things they share about what they learned.
10. Collect students' collages.
11. Type each student's learning (from notes) and print for distribution to each student in the following class.

Day 2

12. Return students' collages.
13. Distribute to each student a copy of their notes (from Step 11) and a pencil.
14. On the board where all students can see, provide a title, such as "What I Learned About [concept or topic]."
15. Tell students to copy the title on the back of their collage.
16. Instruct students to copy their learning from their notes onto the back of their collage.
17. When students are finished, collect and save the collages for a future lesson where they would help activate previous knowledge.

Reference

DePaul Teaching Commons. "[Activities for Metacognition](#)." DePaul University, Center for Teaching and Learning.

Standards and Benchmarks

Elementary

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.4 and CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.4

- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.4

- With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.8

- Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8

- Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.8

- Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8

- Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.8 and CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.8

- With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.