

Strategy #5

Sort and Create

A variation of Sort and Predict and the Word Sort

Purpose:

- To activate and extend prior knowledge
- To categorize information and ideas
- To help students focus on material
- To help students make connections between what they know and what they are about to learn

Steps:

1. A number of terms from the unit students are about to learn are typed on a large sheet of paper. One paper is made for each group. The terms may be both familiar and unfamiliar words.
2. Working in groups, the students cut the terms out and place the cards, in categories, on a poster paper.
3. The terms are labeled and glued to the paper. Students may draw illustrations to explain the categories and/or decorate the paper.
4. They may present the poster to the class.

Formative Assessment:

As the students categorize the terms, the teacher notes which students are able to categorize, which have prior knowledge and which may require more background knowledge.