

## K-W-L-R Chart

Steps for completion:

- 1) Students are given a K-W-L-R template.
- 2) Before reading an unfamiliar text, students work independently or with a partner to chart what they already know about the topic. This is written in the Know (“K”) column.
- 3) The whole class shares their knowledge, and the teacher compiles and records their brainstorming.
- 4) Next, students decide as a class what they want (“W”) to know about the topic by the time they have read the entire text. (Based on their “know” column, consider what questions have come to mind? Where are their knowledge gaps?)
- 5) As they read the text over time, students search for answers to the items listed in the “W” column. They record their answers in the Learn (“L”) column as they are discovered.
- 6) Upon completion of the text, students identify which questions remain unanswered from the “L” column. Those remaining questions are then transferred into the Research (“R”) column, as a possible topic for research. Also brainstorm and add new questions that have arisen during the reading.
- 7) These unanswered questions in the “R” column then become the topic for post-reading research.
- 8) Questions are divided up amongst groups of students, and they are given one week to search for the answer.
- 9) Each group gives a five-minute presentation answering their assigned research question.

Gallagher, K. (2004). Deeper reading. Portland, ME: Stenhouse Publishers.