Learning Strategies for Students with Limited English Proficiency

1. Point out new vocabulary words in context and practice using the words as much as possible throughout the activity.

Inventory	Aisle	Factors	Alter	Acquaint
Trend	Adapt	Accommodate	Profit	Correspond

2. Students may have difficulty with the concept of a trend. Try using the word 'pattern' instead. To help students see a trend in a store's aisles, ask, "What is similar about all the products in this aisle, and what makes this aisle different from all the other aisles?"

3. Consider finishing this activity with a CLOZE activity. CLOZE activities are useful tools for summarizing material and for giving English-language learners opportunities to practice writing complete sentences using science vocabulary. CLOZE activities are most effective when used frequently, to build students' ability with more complex sentences.

   Ask students to tell you what the important lessons and science vocabulary words were that they learned in this activity. The list should include: categories, map, organize, supermarket, arrangement, trend, pattern, items, etc.

   Next, ask students to give you sentences describing what they did in the activity, using the words that they decided were important. You may wish to offer a first sentence as an example. For instance, "In this activity we organized items in a supermarket." Write simple sentences. Model using a topic sentence, supporting statements, and a closing sentence. Model the writing process of editing where students make corrections that improve the sentences.

   Once the paragraph is complete and students agree that it accurately summarizes what they did and learned, have them copy down the paragraph. Explain that there will be a brief quiz tomorrow at the beginning of class on the paragraph. The quiz will be the very paragraph they wrote down, but with several blanks where some words were. The students will need to fill in the blanks with the words that are missing. Tell students how the quiz will be graded. Prepare this quiz by keying in the paragraph and then going back and removing every fifth word and replacing it with a blank. Score the quiz by allotting two points for every blank, one point for the correct word (or perhaps one with the correct meaning), and a second point for the correct spelling of that word.

© It's About Time