

Procedural Text

Objective

Students will explain directions, using pictures and text.

Materials

- Procedural text
- Procedural Text handout

Overview

Provide explicit instruction with modeling before having students practice independently or in groups.

Activity

1. Distribute the text and the handout.
2. Explain the features of procedural text:
 - Go over the background information at the top of the handout.
 - Show students examples of different kinds of procedural texts.
 - Review text features and how they can provide the reader additional information.
3. Explain the directions and the example on the handout.
4. Have students practice the process.

Differentiation Ideas

- Provide students with pictures of a sequence of steps and have students place the pictures in the correct order and explain why the order is correct.
- If needed, have students use those pictures to write out their steps (students can glue or copy the pictures on the handout). Students can verbally tell steps prior to writing them out.

Adapted from Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. (2009). *Teacher reading academies*. Austin, TX: Author.

Procedural Text

Background Knowledge

Procedural text features:

- Tells how to do or make something
- Presents information in a logical order or sequence
- Presents information in steps
- Uses key words—*first*, *next*, *after*, *then*, and *finally* or *lastly*—to indicate order
- Sometimes uses pictures help explain each step

Procedural text examples:


- Recipes
- Directions
- Science experiments
- Rules
- Instructions
- How-to texts

Directions

1. Choose a set of steps to write out.
2. Give your steps a title.
3. Draw a picture for each step and write a caption below your picture.
4. Write a sentence for each step. Remember to use the key words.
5. Explain your steps to the teacher or another student.

Example

Title: *How to make bread*

Key word	Picture	Written step
First	 Caption: <i>Gather ingredients</i>	<i>The first step is to gather all of the ingredients.</i>

Title:

Key word	Picture	Written step
First	Caption:	
Next	Caption:	
After	Caption:	

Then	Caption:	
Finally or Lastly	Caption:	