

Instructions for CARD CATEGORIES

Materials needed. An assigned reading text and a selection of little stickie papers. If you prefer not to use stickies, index cards or scraps of paper work also.

First, students are assigned to read quietly and independently the assigned text – whatever it may be. After reading independently, each student is to write on the little stickie any new word they couldn't explain or didn't know: one word per stickie. After each student has written the various new vocabulary words on the stickies, students are grouped by four's. As this is a very safe activity, I believe it works well either before or after NEW WORDS – NEW FRIENDS. I encourage you to organize the small groups of four students heterogeneously; place students together who often do not know each other well.

Now that students are in groups of four, they will need a large working area. Often times, pushing four desks together to make a square will work, or perhaps the students have access to tables. Assign the small groups of four the task of making make one joint pattern with all of their individual stickies.

You will see that this requires a good amount of time and talking.

To conclude the activity, each group of four will explain to the whole group why they created this particular pattern of words.

Good luck and enjoy!
Joan