

Set of Steps or Direction (Powerhouse Pit-Stop) Practice Activities

Feeding Hummingbirds:

Feeding hummingbirds is an entertaining, educational, and inexpensive hobby. These flying jewels burn an incredible number of calories because of their high-energy lifestyle. Your feeder may be exactly the “pit stop” they need!

Here are some easy steps that will help you get started.

1) First, find out if there are hummingbirds in your area. A birding field guide or the local chapter of the National Audubon Society will give you the information you need.

2) Next, make a simple hummingbird feeder. There are several plans available on the Internet, with minimal supplies needed. Remember that hummingbirds are attracted to the color red. A red ribbon will catch the eye of your new visitors. There are also many commercial hummingbird feeders available for purchase.

3) When your feeder is ready, you can add the hummingbird’s food source. It’s easy to adjust this recipe to make any size batch you want.

First, think about what you already know about feeding hummingbirds. After you finish thinking, read the passage, “Feeding Hummingbirds.”

Next, answer the following questions:

1. What is the beginning information about feeding hummingbirds presented in this passage?
2. What is additional information about feeding hummingbirds presented in this passage?
3. What is concluding information about feeding hummingbirds presented in this passage?
4. What are the signal words the author used?

Finally, after you have determined the sequence of steps for feeding hummingbirds, create a “Sequence Chart Graphic Organizer” that helps you visualize the order of events presented in this passage. This will help you remember the author’s main points as you read.

Compare your answers with **Sam's Think Aloud and graphic organizer.**

Sequence Text Structure

- A style of writing in which the author is able to put a series of events in order such as when describing: **a life cycle, something in chronological order, or when providing step-by-step directions.**

Sequence Signal Words

- In order to signal the passage of time when sequencing, authors will **utilize time, days of the week, months, seasons, years, numbers, and letters of the alphabet.**
- Other key signal words include: **first, then, next, finally, before, during, after, additionally, initially, and/or prior to.**

Sequence Chart Graphic Organizer

- A type of graphic organizer that allows the reader to visualize the events being presented in an organized fashion. In this type of diagram **a chain of boxes is used to show the sequence of events.**
- **The first box** corresponds to the first major point of information presented in the text.
- **The next box** (or boxes) on the sequence chart displays further important information.
- **A final box** on the sequence chart shows the last major point of information.

Creative Clothing: Learn How to Tie-Dye

Tie-Dyeing is an easy and fun way to turn a plain white t-shirt into a piece of wearable art! Before you begin, gather the supplies listed below:

- A washed, white t-shirt that is at least 60% cotton
- Fabric dye, such as RIT
- Rubber gloves
- Rubber bands
- Split open garbage bags to protect surfaces
- Old 3-gallon buckets for each dye color
- Long, stainless steel spoon
- Scissors
- Laundry detergent
- Paper towels for clean up

Directions:

First, either fold or lay the t-shirt flat. Then pull up and twist different sections of the t-shirt, and rubber band each section. The more rubber bands you use, the more designs you will create. You can also twist the whole t-shirt tightly first, then rubber band sections for another interesting effect.

Next, wearing rubber gloves to protect your hands, prepare up to three different dye colors according to the directions on the dye box. Hotter water makes dye colors stronger.

Now you're ready to tie-dye! Plunge your t-shirt in the lightest color dye bath for 4-7 minutes, stirring occasionally. Take the t-shirt out of the bucket and rinse in warm water. Then move on to the next lightest color of dye, and repeat the same steps.

After the shirt is dyed, rinse it again in warm then cooler water until the water runs clear. Then untwist the fabric and use scissors to cut the rubber bands.

Finally, wash the t-shirt in warm water and detergent, and rinse in cool water. Hang or machine dry, and you're ready to try on your work of art!

First, think about what you already know about tie-dyeing. After you finish thinking, read the passage, "Creative Clothing: Learn How to Tie-Dye."

Next, answer the following questions:

1. What are the major steps that need to take place in order to complete a tie-dyeing project?
2. What is the sequence needed for these steps? What happens first, second, third, etc.? What is the last step?
3. Highlight any signal words the author used to help the reader organize the information presented.

Finally, create a "Sequence Chart Graphic Organizer" that helps you visualize the sequence of steps for tie-dyeing. This will help you remember the author's main points as you read.

Challenge yourself by thinking of another project that involves following a set of directions. Create a "Sequence Chart Graphic Organizer" to show the sequence of steps needed to complete this project.

Compare your answers with **Emma's Think Aloud and graphic organizer.**