North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT TOOLS
FOR ACHIEVING NEW STANDARDS

This document is designed to assist North Carolina educators in effective instruction of the new Common Core State and/or North Carolina Essential Standards (Standard Course of Study) in order to increase student achievement. NCDPI staff are continually updating and improving instructional tools to better serve teachers. **These Graphic Organizers are in draft form and are undergoing review for feedback.**

Graphic Organizers SAMPLES

What is the purpose of this tool?

These visual representations assist the student in organizing abstract "big picture" information that is new, overwhelming or misunderstood. Research supports the utilization of graphic organizers as a contributing factor in improving student performance. The examples are to model varied organizers and their use in provoking student engagement, organization, and understanding, thus equipping the teacher with the knowledge to develop and use such tools effectively with the new standards. By providing these examples, DPI is creating a foundation for teachers to shift the focus from merely classroom instruction, but also on student learning.

What is in the tool? The instructional tool uses straightforward (clear) models/examples that can be used in the classroom in alignment with the new standards. The tool speaks directly to teachers and holds high expectations for teachers' ability to understand the use of the tool as a mechanism for differentiating instruction.

How do I send Feedback?

We intend the explanations and examples in this document to be helpful and specific. That said, we believe that as this document is used, teachers and educators will find ways in which the tool can be improved and made even more useful. Please send feedback to us at feedback@dpi.nc.gov and we will use your input to refine our instructional tool. Thank You!

Where are the new Common Core State and North Carolina Essential Standards?

All standards are located at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/

Vocabulary Graphic Organizer for Tier 2 Words

Word

Context Clue
Definition
Quick Draw
Connection
Related Words

Vocabulary Graphic Organizer for Tier 2 Words

Purpose:

Vocabulary is key to comprehension. The purpose of this graphic organizer is to provide an organizational tool for students to learn Tier 2 words in context and be able to use them in speaking and writing.

Sample/Description:

Teachers should use the following questions to distinguish between Tier 2 and Tier 3 words from a text.

The following questions can be asked by the teacher:

1) Is this a generally useful word?
2) Does the word relate to other words and ideas that students know or have been learning?
3) Is the word useful in helping students understand the text?
4) If you answer yes to all three questions, it is a Tier 2 word. If not, it is probably a Tier 3 word.

From the Tier 2 words that have been selected, knowing that all of them cannot be taught, consider which of the words will be most useful in helping students understand the text. Use the following questions to determine **which** Tier 2 words to choose for instruction:

1) How generally useful is the word? Is it a word that students are likely to see often in other texts? Will it be of use to students in their own writing?
2) How does the word relate to other words or ideas that the students know or have been learning?
3) What does the word choice bring to the text? What role does the word play in communicating the meaning of the context in which it is used?

To complete the graphic organizer:

1) **Word box:** Student writes the teacher selected vocabulary word.
2) **Context clue box:** Student lists the page number and the sentence/phrase from the text.
3) **Definition box:** Student writes the definition of the word in his/her own words.

4) **Quick Draw box:** Student illustrates the meaning of the word.
5) **Connection box:** Student makes a connection to the world based on prior knowledge and life experiences.
6) **Related Words box:** Student lists words related to the Tier 2 word. Example: Tier 2 word is "idealistic". Words related to that word are "idea" and "ideal".

Connection to Standards:

R.4, L.4

Resources:

http://tinyurl.com/bnpna8s

Level:

This graphic organizer can be used with grades 3-12 and is aligned to the standards.