



WINTER DESCRIPTIVE WRITING

Students will be able to choose descriptive words to enhance meaning and emphasis of winter within their written task. Students will create an original descriptive paragraph to demonstrate their understanding of descriptive language and meaningful text.

PRIOR TO ACTIVITY

To start, the teacher can facilitate a whole-class brainstorm session on “winter” themed descriptive words, and record the ideas onto the whiteboard. Students will be put into 2 teams and take turns acting out the describing words to their team. After one student has 15 seconds of acting to their team, the other team will have the chance to guess the word.

MATERIAL

Each student will need a piece of loose leaf, clipboard and a pencil.

THE ACTIVITY

1. Teacher sets “outdoor classroom” expectations with students.
2. Students will be walking around the school yard, recording what they “sense”, looks, listen, hear, smell and feel.
3. Students are encouraged to appropriately engage with the outdoors (holding snow, touching tree branches etc.).
4. Students are required to record 15 describing words, students on IEPs will record 8 (or less, depending).
5. Students will apply their new words by writing a descriptive paragraph of 5-10 sentences of their outdoor experience.





TIPS AND EXTENSIONS

Turn this activity into an English or Arts lesson. Once students have completed their descriptive paragraph, have the class go through a round of peer editing, to product a final copy. After editing, the paragraph could be accompanied by an image that students create to depict their description.

If you are interested in sharing your project's results, or would like more ideas on teaching outside at your school, please contact FortWhyte Alive by email at education@fortwhyte.org.

