



## KWL – *Know, Want to Know, What we have Learned*

### Description of KWL

KWL (Ogle, 1986) is an instructional reading strategy that is used to guide students through a text. Students begin by brainstorming everything they *Know* about a topic. This information is recorded in the *K* column of a KWL chart. Students then generate a list of questions about what they *Want to Know* about the topic. These questions are listed in the *W* column of the chart. During or after reading, students answer the questions that are in the *W* column. This new information that they have *Learned* is recorded in the *L* column of the KWL chart.

Ogle, D.M. (1986). K-W-L: A teaching model that develops active reading of expository text. *Reading Teacher*, 39, 564-570.

### Purpose for Using KWL

The KWL strategy serves several purposes:

- Elicits students' prior knowledge of the topic of the text
- Sets a purpose for reading
- Helps students to monitor their comprehension
- Allows students to assess their comprehension of the text
- Provides an opportunity for students to expand ideas beyond the text

<i>Know</i> <b>K</b>	<i>Want to Know</i> <b>W</b>	<i>What I have Learned</i> <b>L</b>