**Objective**

The student will activate prior knowledge.

**Materials**

- Text
  
  Choose text within students’ instructional-independent reading level range.
  
  Select target topic from the text.

- Student sheet (Activity Master C.033.SS1)
  
  Write topic or subject in designated box.

**Activity**

Students think about what they already know about a topic or subject and write associated words and phrases.

1. Provide the student with a copy of the text and a student sheet.
2. Student reads topic and browses text to note headings and subheadings. Thinks about what is already known about the topic (e.g., from personal or learning experiences).
3. Writes words, ideas, or phrases associated with topic in the box that matches the first letter of the word or phrase.
4. Fills in as many of the boxes as possible.
5. Writes a summary about what is known about the topic by using the words and phrases written on the student sheet.
6. Teacher evaluation

**Extensions and Adaptations**

- Use student sheet while reading or after reading to record vocabulary important to the topic.
- Spell the topic vertically and write something that is known for each letter.
- Organize words from student sheet into categories (Activity Master C.033.SS2). For example, words on sheet may be clouds, rain, evaporation that can be classified as Water Cycle.
Comprehension
Background Check
C.033.SS2

Topic: ________________________________

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