Lesson Skill: Comprehension of information in reference materials

Strand   Reading

SOL   2.10
             3.7

Materials
- Scavenger hunt created by the teacher
- Computer access
- Projector

Lesson

1. Select appropriate Web sites that relate to a content area of study. Bookmark the Web sites ahead of time on the computers that students will be using. Develop questions that relate to each site that students will use for a scavenger hunt. Explain that there are many sources that provide information about a specific topic, and the Internet is one of them. To give students a clearer idea of what you mean, you might mention other sources, such as libraries or experts (e.g., scientist, author). Tell students they will be using a Web site to explore and find answers to the questions you developed.

2. While students are at a computer, ask them to go to the specific Web site while you demonstrate on the projector. Show students how to navigate through a site to find answers to some of the questions. Have volunteers use the main computer and projector to answer practice questions while the rest of the students observe.

3. Once it appears that students are confident with the process, begin the scavenger hunt, with students searching for answers to the remaining questions. When students finish the hunt, review answers together. Have volunteers use the main computer to demonstrate how they found the answers.

Strategies for Differentiation
- Do this lesson as a whole class activity, from start to finish.
- If completed as an individual assignment:
  - Use a touch screen for students who are unable to maneuver a mouse.
  - Highlight key terms in each question.
  - Prepare by opening the Web site on each computer.
  - Post the link on interactive whiteboard or wall for students who need additional support.
  - Teach students to use pictures or subtopics to locate answers.