

## Lesson Skill: Using online resources

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**Strand** Reading — Nonfiction

**SOL** 3.6, 3.7

4.6

5.6

### Materials

- Available technology for teacher demonstration
- Computer for each student or student group
- Access to online encyclopedia
- Teacher-created anticipation guide corresponding to science or social studies Standards of Learning Objectives (example attached)

### Lesson

1. Review prereading strategies with the class, and ask students why good readers use comprehension strategies such as activating prior knowledge, building background, and making, confirming, and revising predictions before reading. Conclude that the use of these strategies before reading helps readers set a purpose for their reading and to monitor their understanding of the text.
2. Explain that the class will be undertaking a “before reading” activity to prepare for the nonfiction text. Students think about what they already know (prior knowledge) and make predictions about what information they will encounter in the text.
3. Hand out a teacher-created Anticipation Guide to each student. Direct students to read each of the five statements about the science/social studies content information being introduced and to circle True or False in the first column. Explain to students that they will need to use any background information they have on the subject in order to make their True/False prediction, and if they have limited or no prior knowledge, they may have to guess.
4. Ask students if they are confident in their responses. Explain that when a reader only uses limited or no background information to draw a conclusion, it is hard to be sure they will be correct. Explain there is a way readers can research information to confirm or reject information at school or at home—an online encyclopedia. Using available technology, model accessing a reliable online encyclopedia. Explain to students that they can confirm or reject their predictions on the anticipation guide by conducting research on the online encyclopedia. Demonstrate how to search the online encyclopedia for the information required to confirm or reject the first prediction on the Anticipation Guide.
5. Tell students to use the online encyclopedia to research the remaining four statements on the Anticipation Guide by circling True or False in the final column. Review the statements as a class, giving the correct True/False response to each.
6. Discuss the following questions with students:
  - How did you search to find the information to confirm or reject your predictions?

- What tools of the online encyclopedia assisted you in this process?
- How does searching an online encyclopedia compare to searching for information in a print encyclopedia? How are the searches different?
- In what ways would an online encyclopedia be useful at home? At school?

### **Strategies for Differentiation**

- Create a slide show of critical vocabulary with definitions when using the anticipation guide. Embedded slide links can be provided so students can access further scaffolded information about the vocabulary.
- Students are partnered for peer-assisted learning when working on the Anticipation Guide and accessing the online resources.
- Preteach the use of the Anticipation Guide.
- Provide access to read-aloud technology, such as screen reader or text-to-speech software.
- Students may be asked to justify the change in their answers in the Anticipation Guide.

## Anticipation Guide: Famous Explorers

True or False	<b>Christopher Columbus was the first European to discover America when he landed at Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts.</b>	True or False
True or False	<b>Jack Cartier, a French explorer, claimed Canada for France after mapping the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and the Saint Lawrence River.</b>	True or False
True or False	<b>Captain John Smith was the leader of the Jamestown expedition from England that founded the first permanent English settlement in North America.</b>	True or False
True or False	<b>Juan Ponce de Leon, a Spanish explorer, named Florida after searching it for the Fountain of Youth.</b>	True or False
True or False	<b>Christopher Newport's ships were named the <i>Nina</i>, the <i>Pinta</i>, and the <i>Santa Maria</i>.</b>	True or False