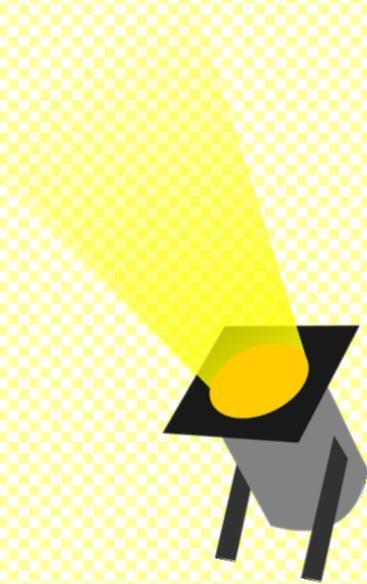




The ABCs of Language Arts Components



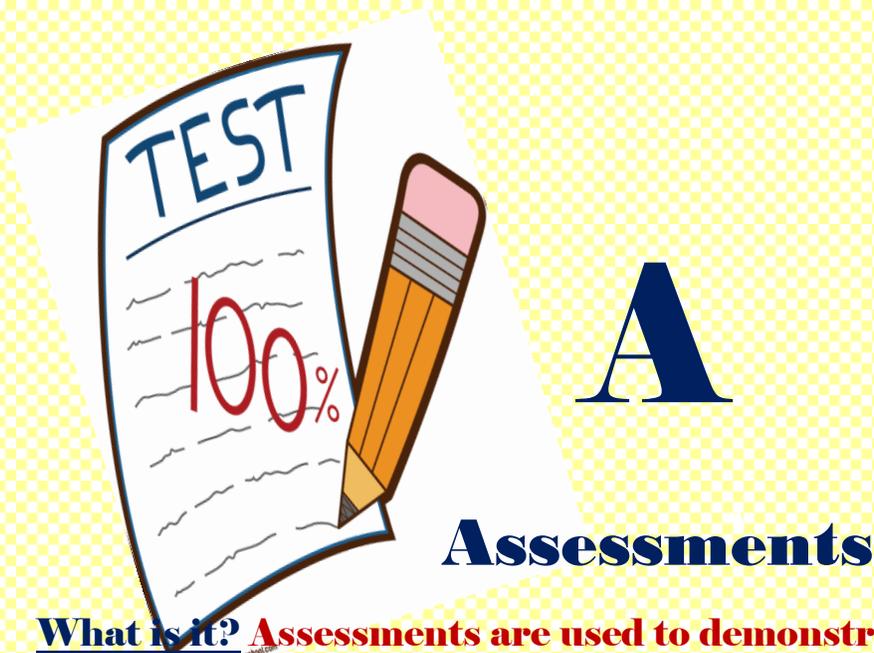
Written By:

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Language Arts Curriculum Grades 1-8

ELED 524 01W

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What is it? Assessments are used to demonstrate a level of understanding, to help reteach, and as a tool to help students assess their own learning.

Why is it important? Assessments are important because it helps to record and monitor fluency, academic progress, the need to reteach, offers an opportunity to reflect, and shows achievement of learning standards.

Activities: Informal Assessments (Exit tickets, bell ringers, discussions); Formal Assessments (projects with rubrics, oral exams, writing exams)

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Viewing & Visual Representation, Thinking & Reflecting, Internet Digital

B



Balanced Teacher

What is it? A balanced teacher uses both traditional and constructivist approaches; this teacher educates and differentiates based on the learning needs of all students.

Why is it important? This type of teacher is important because we have to be flexible when it comes to teaching and structuring our lessons to meet the needs of the diversity that exists in your classroom.

Activities:

- 1. Conduct before activities or implement starter activities in your classroom environment.**
- 2. Use centers/stations that allow guided learning and promotes a student-centered classroom.**

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Viewing & Visual Representation, Thinking & Reflecting, Internet Digital

WQ 1

C

Constructivist Teacher



What is it? Constructivist teacher teaches from an inquiry and curiosity approach; believes in a variety of responses, focuses more on expression, and allows curiosity to lead the learning experience.

Why is it important? These teachers are important because they allow students to learn in their natural curious state allowing students to truly explore.

Activities:

- 1. Allow students to use expression in their reading and writing.**
- 2. Allow students to use various text to verify and confirm understanding.**

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Viewing & Visual Representation, Thinking & Reflecting, Internet Digital

WQ 1



D

Development

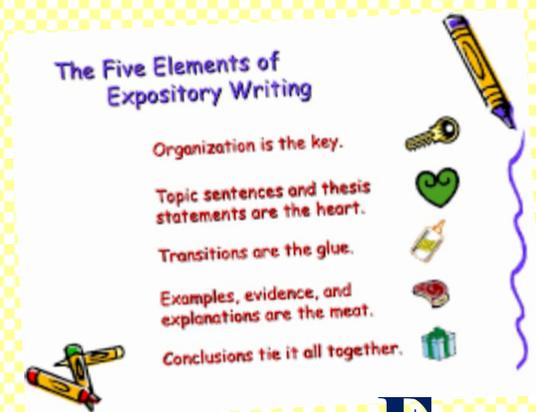
What is it? Development is the process of growth; growth in education refers to the process of learning and advancing to different academic levels (grade level).

Why is it important? Language is seen as developmental. Development takes place in all our Language Arts components such as the 5 speaking stages, listening, 5 pillars of writing, stages of writing, etc.

Activities:

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Viewing & Visual Representation, Thinking & Reflecting, Internet Digital

WQ 2 & 3



E

Expository Writing

What is it? Expository writing seeks to explain, illuminate, and written to inform; This type of writing includes essays, textbooks, and newspapers to name a few.

Why is it important? Students use this type of writing to compare and contrast, explain cause and effect, and much more. Being able to write in this manner helps to inform others and provide an explanation.

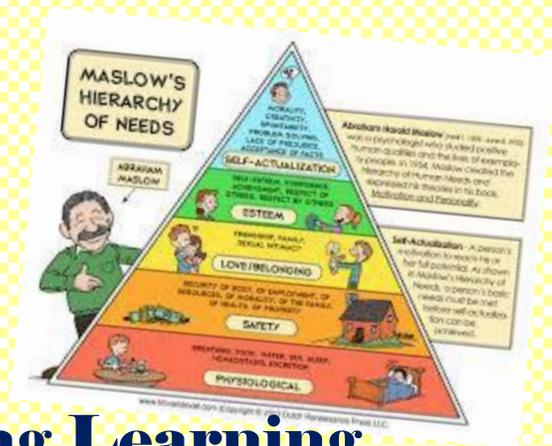
Activities:

- 1. Use engaging and fun prompts.**
- 2. Create songs to help students understand and remember the characteristics of expository writing.**

LA Components: Reading & Writing; Thinking & Reflecting

WQ 6

F



Factors Impacting Learning

What is it? There are many factors that can either interfere or aid in students being able to learn. Some factors that impact learning are legislator, administration, school environment, teacher, family, and student factors.

Why is it important? Understanding and being aware of these different factors can help to eliminate them or adjust teaching styles and or approach with students.

Activities:

- 1. Interest Surveys**
- 2. Learning Style Inventory Surveys**

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Viewing & Visual Representation, Thinking & Reflecting, Internet Digital

WQI



Graphic Presentation

What is it? Refers to the 1st and 2nd grade level of writing development; at this stage, students begin to print letters and pay attention to the appearance of their writing.

Why is it important? Being familiar with this level of writing development, allows teachers to help aid students in the handwriting process.

Activities:

- 1. Allow Drawing or Word Puzzle activities**
- 2. Build a Word Activity**

LA Components: Reading & Writing

WQ5



H

Handwriting

What is it? Handwriting is essential to the editing and writing process; it is developed over time.

Why is it important? Handwriting is important because it allows writers to communicate effectively, generate ideas, and retain information.

Activities:

- 1. Quick Writes**
- 2. Use journals**

LA Components: Reading & Writing

WQ5

I Internet



What is it? The internet allows us to gather, share information, research, and make connections to things that are not in our reach.

Why is it important? The internet is an important part of communicating what has been learned; we can find several online sources such as eBooks, WebQuest, etc.

Activities:

- 1. Allow the use of technology in the classroom to conduct research.**
- 2. Provide an internet etiquette activity with students.**

LA Components: Internet/Digital

WQ7

J

Journey

What is it? A journey is known as an act of traveling from one place to another. Learning is a journey because our students are constantly developing and moving from one grade level to the next.

Why is it important? It is important because students and teachers must understand that learning is a process/journey; each student arrives at the next place in their individual time with our assistance.

Activities:

- 1. Empower students daily.**
- 2. Provide ways for students to self-monitor their progress.**

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Viewing & Visual Representation, Thinking & Reflecting, Internet Digital

Cognitive Skills:
The Foundation
for Learning



Key Cognitive Skills

What is it? Key cognitive skills are the foundation of learning and knowledge; they are skills that are specific to intellectual behaviors. These skills are intellectual curiosity, reasoning, problem solving, academic behaviors, work habits, and academic integrity.

Why is it important? Key cognitive skills are important because students must be able to apply these skills across many context and subjects; they allow them to engage in deeper thinking.

Activities:

- 1. Incorporate cross curricular lessons**
- 2. Provide opportunities for students to develop/enhance these skills such as critical thinking games, provide classroom roles, research opportunities.**

LA Components: Thinking & Reflecting

WQS

L



Listening

What is it? Listening is our ability to hear and interpret sounds. There are 9 levels of listening; simple, discriminative, interpretive, listening for information, listening to organize ideas, listening for the main idea, listening for varied points of view, critical, and creative listening.

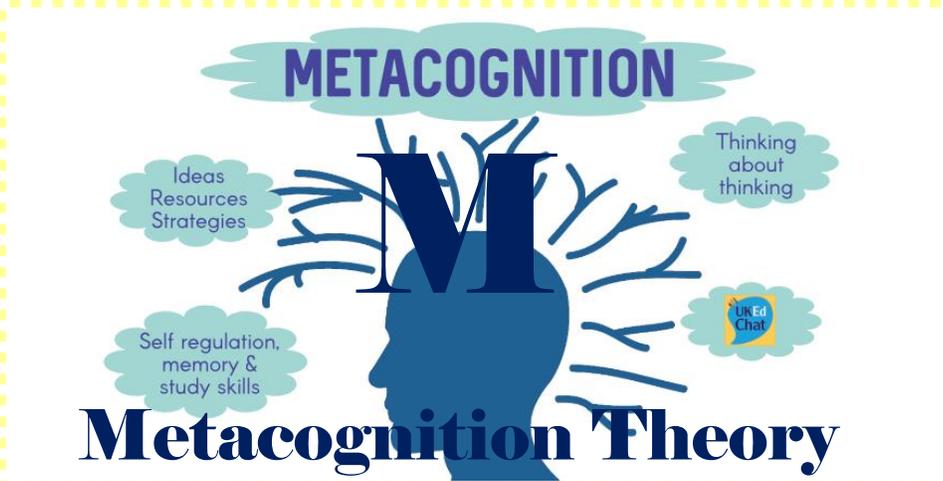
Why is it important? Listening is important because it aids in comprehension, involves participation, and it plays a huge role in our oral language (listening/speaking).

Activities:

- 1. Musical Chairs**
- 2. Debates or Discussions**

LA Components: Listening & Speaking

WQ2



What is it? This theory believes that students need to reflect on how they know something and adjust their thinking when they find their information is incorrect.

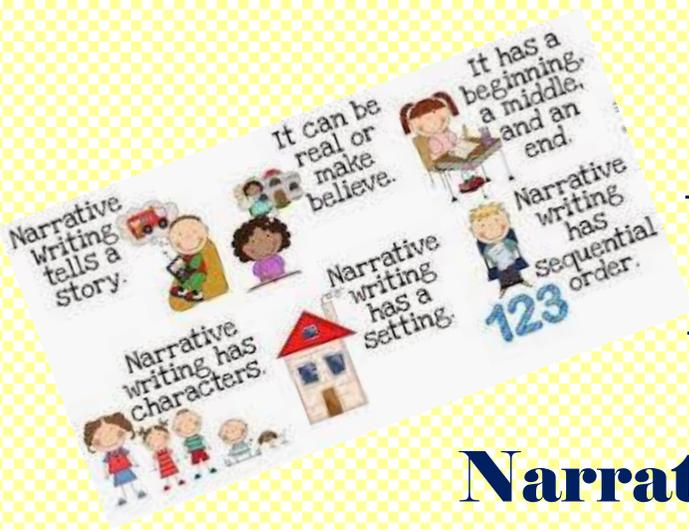
Why is it important? It is important in comprehension, the metacognition process, and enhancing key cognitive skills.

Activities:

- 1. Think-Pair-Share**
- 2. Ball Toss**

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing, Thinking & Reflecting

WQI



N

Narrative Writing

What is it? Narrative writing usually tells a fiction story but can also be nonfiction; it involves characters, a setting, a plot, conflict, and has sequential order.

Why is it important? Narrative writing is a learning tool. It allows students to write about stories that they may have read, express their creativity, and they are a part of the learning standards.

Activities:

- 1. Use a graphic novel.**
- 2. Allow students to use a narrative organizer.**

LA Components: Reading & Writing

WQ6



What is it? Oral language is how we communicate and express knowledge; it involves speaking and listening which both impact learning.

Why is it important? Students must be able to communicate orally and listen effectively. Oral language also has an immediate relationship with reading comprehension and writing.

Activities:

- 1. Create Chants**
- 2. Using rhyming literature such as poetry**

LA Components: Listening and Speaking

WQ1



Pictures

What is it? Pictures are used as visual images and representation; they are known as the universal language.

Why is it important? Pictures are important because they help to expand the meaning of words; aids in print rich environments.

Activities:

- 1. Allow students to create picture books to demonstrate their learning.**
- 2. Use interactive notebooks.**

LA Components: Viewing and Visual Representation

WQ7



Questioning

What is it? Questioning is used to promote various thinking skills such as knowledge, comprehension, evaluation, synthesis, analysis, etc.

Why is it important? It is important because it allows students to self-monitor, assists students with guided learning, and helps with metacognition.

Activities:

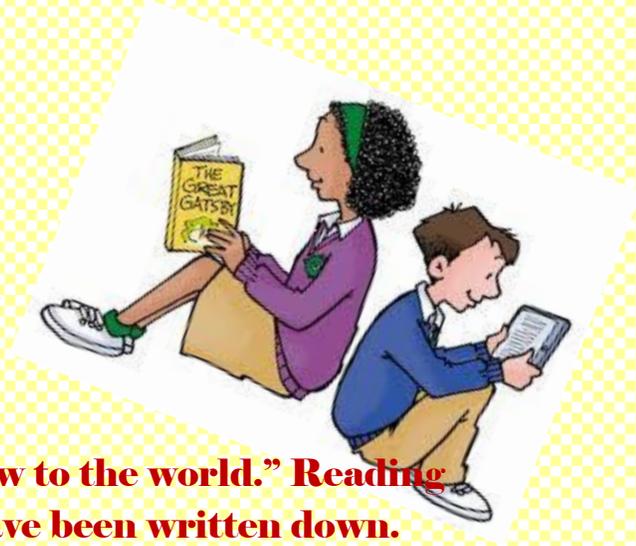
- 1. Use question stems.**
- 2. Allow students to use a thinking skill cheat sheet.**

LA Components: Thinking and Reflecting

WQS

R

Reading



What is it? “Reading is a student’s window to the world.” Reading is a process of decoding oral words that have been written down. Reading has 5 elements: phonological and phonemic awareness, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Why is it important? “Reading is the key to academic success.”

Activities:

- 1. Use literature circles.**
- 2. Allow students time to read at their individual level.**

LA Components: Reading & Speaking

WQ1



Six Thinking Hats

What is it? Six Thinking Hats are used to categorize thinking; white hat-facts, blue hat-process, red hat-feelings, yellow hat-benefits, green hat-creativity, and black hat-caution.

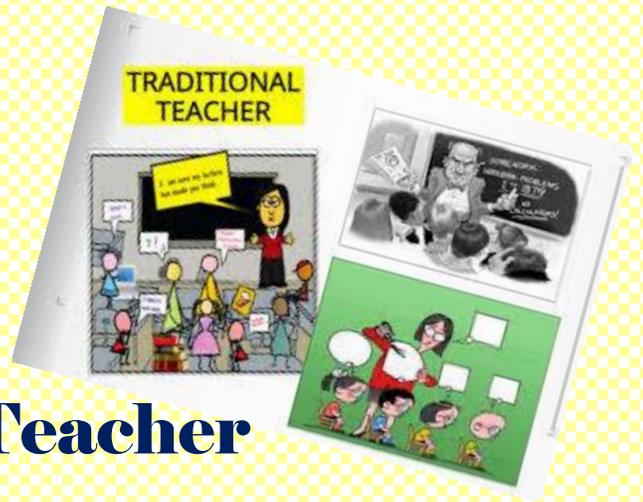
Why is it important? These hats are important because they act as a guide for students in their thinking process; it also allows focus or redirection of thoughts, and conversations.

Activities:

LA Components: Thinking & Reflecting

WQS

T



Traditional Teacher

What is it? A traditional teacher believes that everyone must be taught and learn in the same manner; rarely goes off script, and this teacher typically has a teacher-centered classroom.

Why is it important? It is important to understand this type of teacher because some characteristics may be helpful; however, we should strive to be a balanced teacher.

Activities:

LA Components: Listening & Speaking, Reading & Writing

WQ1



Universal Language of Understanding

What is it? When we think about today's society, everyone is drawn to images and signs; images are the universal language of understanding.

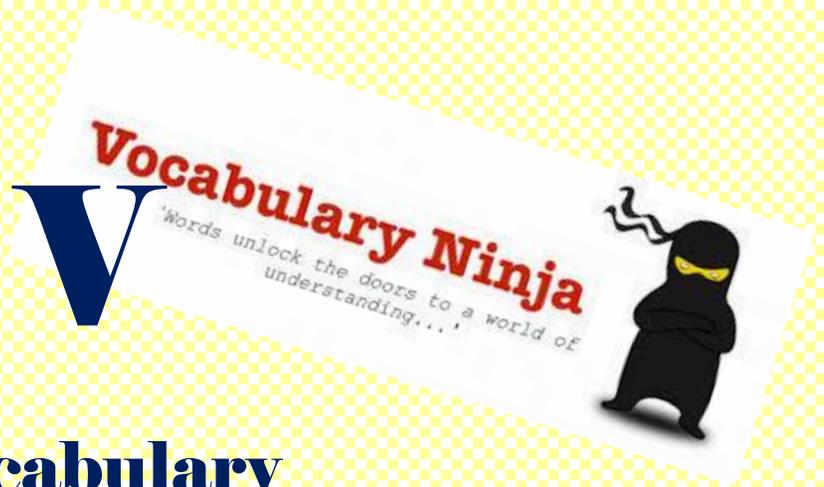
Why is it important? The universal language of understanding plays a vital role in how we view certain images and what they represent.

Activities:

- 1. Use images to describe content words.**
- 2. Use photos to assist ELL students in making connections to words.**

LA Components: Viewing & Visual Representation

WQ7



Vocabulary

What is it? Vocabulary are words that are grouped into several categories such as listening (words we hear and understand), speaking (words we use when we speak), reading (words we understand when we read texts), writing, academic words, content, grade level words, words based on jobs such as nouns, adjective, verbs, etc.

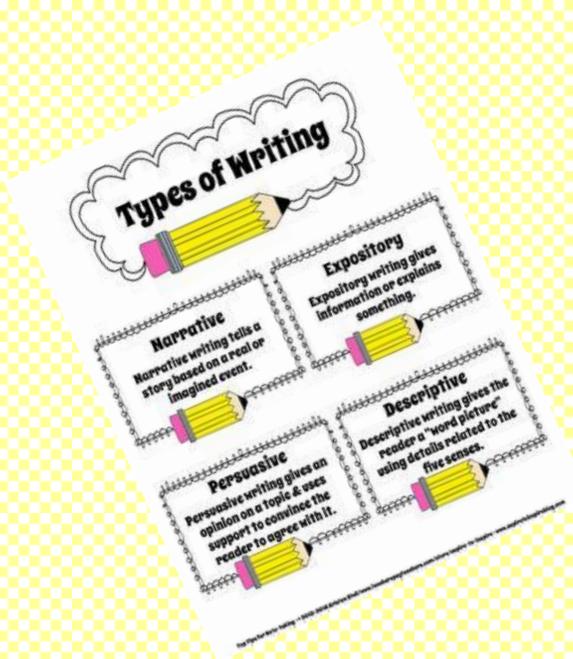
Why is it important? Vocabulary is important because it shows understanding, gives meaning to words, helps us interpret ideas, allow us to communicate, and helps make a good impressing.

Activities:

- 1. Brainstorming Maps**
- 2. Graffiti Word Walls**

LA Components: Reading & Writing

WQ4



W

Writing

What is it? “Writing is encoding the word as you write them down.” Writing has several stages and is a developmental process. These stages include preliterate, early emergent, transitional, and fluency writing. There are different types of writing such as narrative, expository, descriptive, and persuasive.

Why is it important? All students should be able to write at grade level in every content/subject. Writing is a basic means of communication. It showcases one’s intelligence. Writing is directly related to reading, speaking, and listening.

Activities:

- 1. Use writing centers.**
- 2. Allow students to free write.**

LA Components: Reading & Writing

WQ1; WQ5

X

Xerox



What is it? A copy of a document. (In the education world, it is a life-saver and time-saver.)

Why is it important? When we are using different resources and finding creative ways to teach our students, it is important that we keep the resources that help and benefit our students; Xeroxing our documents are a life saver. We use many visuals and charts to help guide our student's learning.

Activities:

- 1. Create Visual Aids.**
- 2. Use posters and graphs throughout the classroom.**

LA Components: Viewing and Visual Representation



Y

YouTube

What is it? YouTube is a video-sharing website.

Why is it important? YouTube is one of many sites that is used as an online research tool, digital learning, and an online resource site. It provides many videos related to various topics and learning tools. It is used as a viewing representation.

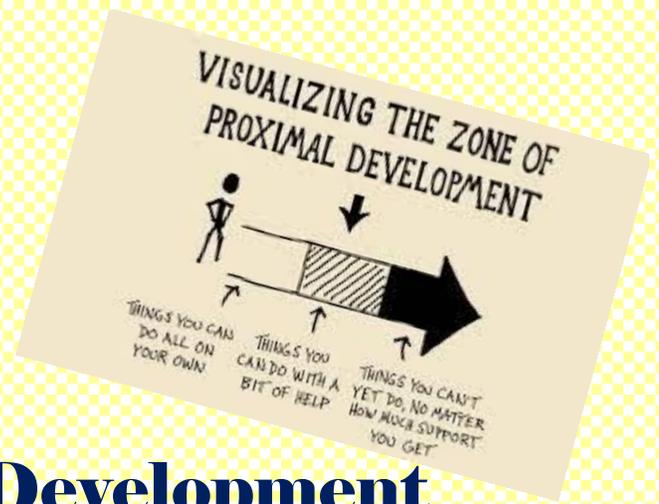
Activities:

- 1. Allow the use of YouTube to complete center/station activities.**
- 2. Use for teaching lessons or introducing new concepts.**

**LA Components: Viewing and Visual Representation;
Internet/Digital**

WQ7

Z



Zone of Proximal Development

What is it? Zone or area where children need a buddy or an educated individual to guide them, because they cannot do it on their own. One particular zone of proximal development was discussed with instructional level of reading

Why is it important? Being aware of the zone of proximal development allows teachers to help students reach different levels of reading.

Activities:

- 1. Buddy Reading**
- 2. Using websites such as abeya.com to help students practice their reading.**

LA Components: Reading and Writing

WQ3

Reflection

Writing this ABC Book allowed me the opportunity to see and analyze just how much I was able to comprehend from this class; it showed me how much Language Arts plays a role not just in our classroom, but in our everyday lives. It was so challenging to just choose one word per letter, because we studied so much; however, I did find that certain words allowed us to elaborate on so many aspects. For example, using the term vocabulary for letter V gave me the opportunity to expound on how much I took away from this term. I love the idea of the ABC Book as a comprehensive review now that I am finished. This would be an excellent final exam project for students instead of the usual written exam. Not only that, but this ABC book can be used to share with colleagues, it can be used as a guide or refresher, and it can be used as a reminder of the journey that our students are taking across their classes. I learned that I pay attention to detail, and it is much easier to simplify that detail. It was almost like creating bullet points that served as brain triggers. Now, I understand why you asked us to stop and reflect after each section of our WebQuest. Those reflections made completing this ABC Book a lot easier. Not just that, but each reflection that we made all came together in learning the components of language arts.