

A Blog for Busy Teachers

FREE LANGUAGE-BASED TEACHING STRATEGIES

Weekend Summary Brainstorm for Speaking and Listening Skills

Something as simple as sharing what they did over the weekend can be challenging for some students. Weekend updates are a common Monday morning ice breaker. Students with language deficits often struggle with recall and the production of cohesive oral narratives. This Weekend Update graphic organizer can be used as a homework assignment. This premise can certainly be adapted to a variety of lessons beyond weekend updates. The idea is to use a structured graphic organizer or similar visual to complete before speaking. Students should submit the graphic organizer as part of the assignment.

Teacher Instructions: Have students fill in 1-2 activities that they did for each day over the weekend on the **graphic organizer**. Then have the students add one detail related to each activity. For students who may not be able to read or write they can draw pictures.

They will verbally share with the class what they did over the weekend using the brainstorm to organize their thoughts, stay on topic, etc.

If a student needs additional support/structure, you could provide a “word bank” of typical weekend activities e.g., (watched tv, played video games, played soccer, went to the grocery store with mom, etc.)



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