

## Activity List-Group-Label – a Pre-reading Activity

LGL is structured brainstorming that helps students identify what they know about a learning concept, and the words related to that concept. In addition to building on prior knowledge, introducing critical concepts and engaging attention, it helps students think critically and analytically about the reading. Here are the directions:

1. Think of all the words related to \_\_\_\_\_. (a key idea or "big idea" in the text)
2. Group the words listed by things that characteristics have in common.
3. Decide on a label for each group.
4. Try to add words to the categories on the organized lists.
5. Working in small groups or pairs, each group shares with the class its method of categorization and the thinking behind its choices, while adding words from other class members.
6. Teachers can extend this activity by having students convert their organized concepts into a Semantic Map which a visual expression of their thinking.
7. List-group-label is an excellent pre-reading activity to build on prior knowledge, introduce critical concepts, and ensure attention during selection reading.

Adapted from Taba, H. *Teacher's Handbook for Social Studies*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley 1988.

## List-Group-Label

Brainstorm words for the topic, and then sort the words into categories. Name each category using the chart below.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

| Brainstormed Words | Label 1        | Label 2        | Label 3        |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1   . . . . .      | 1   . . . . .  | 1   . . . . .  | 1   . . . . .  |
| 2   . . . . .      | 2   . . . . .  | 2   . . . . .  | 2   . . . . .  |
| 3   . . . . .      | 3   . . . . .  | 3   . . . . .  | 3   . . . . .  |
| 4   . . . . .      | 4   . . . . .  | 4   . . . . .  | 4   . . . . .  |
| 5   . . . . .      | 5   . . . . .  | 5   . . . . .  | 5   . . . . .  |
| 6   . . . . .      | 6   . . . . .  | 6   . . . . .  | 6   . . . . .  |
| 7   . . . . .      | 7   . . . . .  | 7   . . . . .  | 7   . . . . .  |
| 8   . . . . .      | 8   . . . . .  | 8   . . . . .  | 8   . . . . .  |
| 9   . . . . .      | 9   . . . . .  | 9   . . . . .  | 9   . . . . .  |
| 10   . . . . .     | 10   . . . . . | 10   . . . . . | 10   . . . . . |