

# **Instructional Activity: Sort and Report**

## **Instructional Goal:**

- Predict
- Recall
- Arrange
- Organize

## **Description:**

This is an active, hands-on strategy that can be used in a variety of ways. You can use it to tap into your students' prior knowledge before beginning instruction on a topic or it can be used to review concepts that have already been taught. This can assist students in making meaning about what they are learning and connecting different concepts to each other.

## **How to incorporate it in the classroom:**

As an accessing prior knowledge activity:

1. Select a topic that students will be learning.
2. List words and phrases that are associated with that topic.
3. Have students work with a partner and sort the words into categories. Either you can give them the categories or have them create them on their own.
4. Next, have students make a prediction about what the reading will be about.
5. Have the students read the passage and revisit their word sort.
6. Ask the student if they need to revise their word sort or make new categories based on this new knowledge.
7. Have the students make a final draft of the word sort and give a reason for each of the categories.

## **Example:**

**Science:** After the students have received instruction about the two processes meiosis and mitosis, the teacher gives the students this table. The students cut out each term. On a separate piece of paper, the students draw two large circles the size of a grapefruit. The students sort the terms into the two different circles starting with meiosis in one circle and mitosis in the other circle.

4 cells	2 cells	Unique	Different
Sperm and eggs	Body cells	Ovaries & testes	Haploid
Diploid	Mitosis	Meiosis	Somatic cells
Gametes	Two divisions	One division	Crossing over