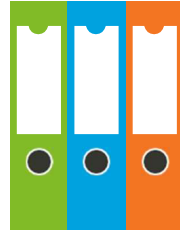


## KWL to support students to engage with learning in the physically distanced classroom and to engage with learning from home



This strategy serves several purposes: it elicits prior knowledge of the text; it sets a purpose for reading and it helps students monitor their comprehension. By being aware of students' interests and prior knowledge the teacher can create projects and assignments that are challenging and that the students will enjoy. A *What I Know, What I Want to Know* and *What I Have Learned*, KWL chart is a tool that can be used to inform teaching as well as guide student learning. KWL charts can be used in a school or home setting for any topic.

### KWL in the physically distanced classroom

Choose a topic/text.

- Ask the students to brainstorm words, terms, or phrases that they know about the topic. The students record these in the K column of the KWL chart.
- Next, ask students what they want to learn about the topic. This is recorded in the W column. If the students respond with a statement turn them into questions before recording them in the W column.
- While engaging with the topic/text the students find the answers to the questions in their W column. Students can fill out their L columns either during or after completing the task/topic.
- Finally, discuss the information that students recorded in the L column.

KWL is a discussion tool designed to stimulate questions.

### KWL while engaging with learning from home

- There are many interactive digital KWL charts online.
- K-W-L Creator - ReadWriteThink  
This interactive tool is equipped with the Worksaver functionality so that students can save their work at different stages in the K-W-L process. Users can embed text links, giving an extra level of interaction and explanation so students can show their examples of their knowledge.
- KWL can be completed individually or as a whole class. The KWL chart as for example, a Google Slide, can be easily shared with students on Google Classroom, Seesaw, Schoology, or any other learning management system.
- Open ended discussion questions: Either before or after the virtual lesson, create a Google Doc with 'big idea' questions that you want students to think about and respond to them as a virtual KWL chart. You can use the responses to go deeper, clarify or group students by learning needs.

\*KWL can be used to support Teaching, Learning and Assessment in *all* subjects as well as the Level 1 Learning Programmes (L1LPs) and the Level 2 Learning Programmes (L2LPs)

### Key Skills

- Managing information and thinking
- Managing myself
- Being literate
- Being numerate
- Communicating

### Assessment

- The KWL chart is a useful way to assess your instruction informally. Have students complete the Know and Want to Know sections of the chart prior to the lesson and the Learned section after the lesson is finished. Did the students successfully master the intentions of the lesson?

### Inclusion of all Learners

- An accessible graphic organiser: write (word/phrase/sentence) draw (pictures/symbols) record/type
- Can highlight prior knowledge/area of interest within a topic.
- Multi-lingual
- Quick to model
- Specific to individual
- Supports Self-Assessment
- Can be completed in small groups, pairs or individually
- Great visual aid to signpost learning/on task reminder
- W section as a springboard into an enquiry-based activity.

### Resources

- One to one digital devices with internet connection
- KWL Charts



### Further Information

[https://jct.ie/wholeschool/classroom\\_strategies](https://jct.ie/wholeschool/classroom_strategies)

L1LPs/L2LPs

