

## Listen to What I Found Out

### Purpose

Students will deliver informative presentations about an important idea, issue, or event by the following means: frame questions to direct the investigations; establish a controlling idea or topic; develop the topic with simple facts, details, examples, and explanations.

### Materials

*For the teacher:* chalk, chalkboard, transparency of Black Line Master (BLM) *Organizing My Research*, overhead projector, marker

*For the students:* copies of BLMs *Organizing My Research* and *Informative Presentation Outline*

### Activity

#### A. Pre-Activity Discussion

1. Write the following steps on the chalkboard: “frame questions,” “establish topic,” and “develop topic.”
2. Ask students why it is important to frame questions before beginning a research paper. Ask them why a speaker should have one main idea or topic. Ask why facts, details, examples, and explanations are important.
3. Write responses on the chalkboard.

#### B. Brainstorming Topics

1. Have students provide examples of topics that interest them. Lead students in a brainstorming session. Document student responses on the chalkboard.
2. Make an idea web to divide large topics into more specific branches. Choose one specific topic for the activity.
3. Display the transparency of the BLM *Organizing My Research*, and distribute a paper copy to each student.
4. Complete the BLM by filling in what students know about the area of interest and what they wonder. Explain that by documenting what they wonder, they are framing their questions to direct their investigation.
5. Explain to students that if they were researching this topic, they would fill in the answers to their questions in the third column labeled “What I Learned.”

(continued)



#### MEETING INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Help students who are struggling by providing them with topics that you have already narrowed. In addition, give them resources that you know contain information about their topics.



#### INCORPORATING TECHNOLOGY

Instruct students to use presentation software to create slide shows that enhance their informative presentations. Encourage students to provide videotaped pieces of their presentations, if appropriate.

**Standards Links**  
5.4.1, 5.4.5, 5.5.3

## Activity (continued)

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### C. Apply What Students Have Learned





1. Ask students to research a topic of their choice. Help them to complete idea webs to narrow down their topic and have them fill out the BLM *Organizing My Research*.
2. Allow students the opportunity to research their topics.
3. After they have completed their research, have students organize their notes for a presentation by completing the BLM *Informative Presentation Outline*.
4. Give students the opportunity to practice giving their informative presentations.
5. Have students present their informative presentations to the whole class.

## Questions for Review

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### Basic Concepts and Processes

After students have completed their research, ask them the following questions:

-  What questions did you need to answer regarding your area of interest?
  -  How did you think of questions that interested you?
  -  How did you narrow your area of interest to a specific topic?
  -  What are some examples you have for one of your main points?
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Organizing My Research

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

What I know	What I wonder	What I learned

# Organizing My Research

## Teacher Directions

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Make an idea web with students to help them choose topics within their areas of interest. Instruct students to fill in their topics. Tell them to write down what they know about their topics and what they wonder. Explain that by documenting what they wonder, they are framing their questions to direct their investigation. Give them the opportunity to research what they wonder about their topics. Instruct them to write the information they learn in the third column and on the back of the page.

## Answer Key

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Responses will vary.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Informative Presentation Outline

**My Topic:**

**I. Introduction (what you will discuss)**

**II. Main Point:**

**Details/Examples:**

1.

2.

**III. Main Point:**

**Details/Examples:**

1.

2.

**IV. Main Point:**

**Details/Examples:**

1.

2.

**V. Conclusion (sum up)**



# Informative Presentation Outline

## Teacher Directions

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After they have researched their topics, have students to organize their notes for their presentations by completing this outline. Remind students that they do not need to limit themselves to the numbers provided (e.g., they might have three examples, not just two to support the main point).

## Answer Key

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Responses will vary.