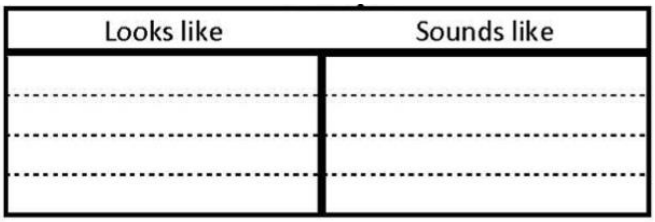
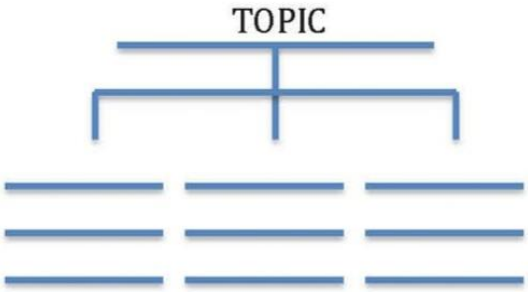
Graphic Organizers and Sentence Frames (TK – 3rd Grade)

Description / *Descripción*

Summary

Graphic organizers for ***description*** include the Web (La ed), the T-Chart (Tabla en forma de T) and the Categorical Matrix. These provide a visual scaffold that clarifies the meaning of a thing, a character, an event or a concept. In the Web, the topic is labeled in a central circle. Descriptors, examples, behaviors and characteristics are linked to the topic through spokes that emanate from the circle, showing their connection. On a T-Chart, the event or thing being described is labeled at the top of a page, with columns under it that are labeled "looks like", "sounds like", "acts like", etc. A Tree Map, similar to a T-Chart, creates columns relating to characteristics of the thing being described, providing component labels or key verbs that support students in description. A Categorical Matrix (single line) is also a form of graphic organizer that later scaffolds into compare and contrast functions.





Single-line Categorical Matrix:

	Physical Attributes	*Needs*	*Equipment for Care*
Dog	Four legs Tail Fur	Exercise Love Shelter Food	Leash Muzzle Dog bed

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Inherent Academic Language

English	*Spanish*
Describe, description	*Describir, la descripción*
Web	*La red*
Spokes	*Los rayos*
Characteristics, characterized by	*Las características, caracterizado por*
Attributes	*Los atributos*
Components	*Los componentes*
Parts, aspects	*Las partes, los aspectos*
Qualities	*Las cualidades*
Properties	*Las propiedades*
Contains	*Contener, Contiene*
Consists of	*Consistir en, constar de*
Defined by	*Se define como*
Exhibits	*Muestra, Mostrar, Demonstrar*
In addition	*Además*
Looks like, smells like, tastes like, sounds like…….	*Se ve como, huele a, sabe a, suena como…*

Grammatical Aspects

- Nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adjective phrases, articles, nominalization, conjunctions, connecting phrases.
- The verb “to be” using common nouns and adjectives
- The verb “to have” using common nouns and adjectives

Scaffolds

	From simple to complex
Prompts/questions	Tell me about ____. What does it look like? What does it do? Describe ____. What are some of the characteristics of ____? Identify some components of _____.
Indicaciones y preguntas	*Háblame de ____. ¿A que se parece? ¿Qué hace?* *Describa ____. ¿Cuáles son algunas de las características de ____?* *Identifica algunos componentes de _____.*
Sentence Frames	The ____ is/are/has _____ (and _____). It has/they have _____. _____ consists of _____. _____ can be defined by its _____ and _____. The characteristics of ____ are _____ (and _____).
Ejemplos de frases	*El _____ tiene _____ para_____ .* *El/ella tiene_____.* *_____ es (una característica/ o consiste) de _____ .* *_____ se define por _____ y _____ .* *Las características de _____ son _____ y _____ .*

Key Standards

Common Core:

- Language Arts Reading Literature #3: *Describe characters, settings and major events in a story, using key details*
- Language Arts Speaking and Listening #4: *Describe people, places, things and events with relevant details. (First Grade adds "…expressing ideas and feelings clearly").*
- Language Arts Speaking and Listening #5: *(In presentations) Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions to provide additional details.*

English Language Development

- ELD I.B.6: Reading/Viewing Closely. *Describe ideas, phenomena (e.g. how earthworms eat) and text elements (e.g., setting, characters) based on understanding of a variety of grade-level texts and viewing of multimedia.*
- ELD I.C.9: Presenting. *Plan and deliver brief oral presentation (e.g., show and tell, describing a picture, describing an animal, retelling a story, recounting an experience).*
- ELD I.C.12. Selecting language resources. *Retell texts and recount experiences using key words.*
- ELD II.B.4. Using nouns and noun phrases. *Expand noun phrases in order to add details about ideas, people, things.*
- ELD II.B.5. Modifying to add details. *Expand sentences with prepositional phrases to provide details (e.g., time, manner, place, cause).*
- ELD II.C.7. Condensing ideas. Condense clauses to create precise and detailed sentences.

Desired Results Developmental Profile

- Measure 18: Comprehension of age-appropriate text: *Demonstrates understanding of text by describing*
- Measure 15: Expression of self through language: *Uses more complex language or vocabulary to describe events that are imaginary, to explain, etc.*

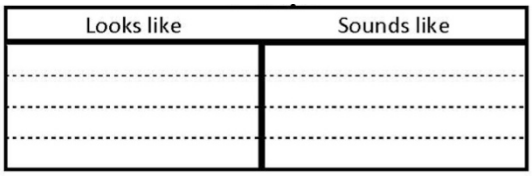
Notes

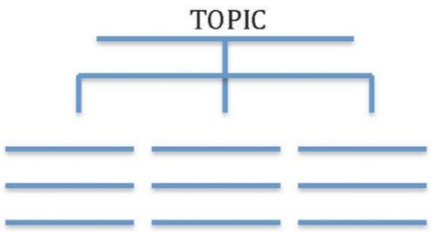
Graphic Organizers with Sentence Frames
(4th – 6th Grade)
Description / *Descripción*

Summary

Graphic organizers for ***description*** include the Web (La red), or Bubble Map, the T-Chart (Tabla en forma de T) and the Categorical Matrix. These provide a visual scaffold that clarifies the meaning of a thing, a character, an event or a concept. In the Web, the topic is labeled in a central bubble or circle. Descriptors, examples, behaviors and characteristics are linked to the topic through spokes that emanate from the bubble, showing their connection. On a T-Chart, the event or thing being described is labeled at the top of a page, with columns under it that are labeled "looks like", "sounds like", "acts like", etc. A Tree Map, similar to a T-Chart, creates columns relating to characteristics of the thing being described, providing component labels or key verbs that support students in description. A Categorical Matrix (single line) is also a form of graphic organizer that later scaffolds into compare and contrast functions.

Graphic Organizers





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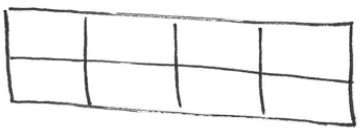
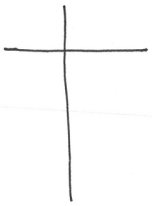
Note-Taking Tools

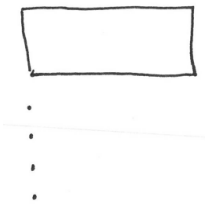
Table



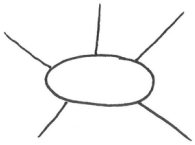
T-Graph



Boxes & Bullets



Web



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Description Chants

Description Chant

By Heather Skibbins
(Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It)

If you say what it looks like – you describe,
If you say what it sounds like – you describe,
If you say what it smells like, tastes like, or feels like,
If you tell its qualities – you describe.

Canto de descripción

Por Heather Skibbins
(Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It)

Si tu dices como parece – tu describes
Si tu dices como suena – tu describes
Si tu dices como huele o que sabor tiene,
Si tu dices las cualidades – tu describes

Key Standards

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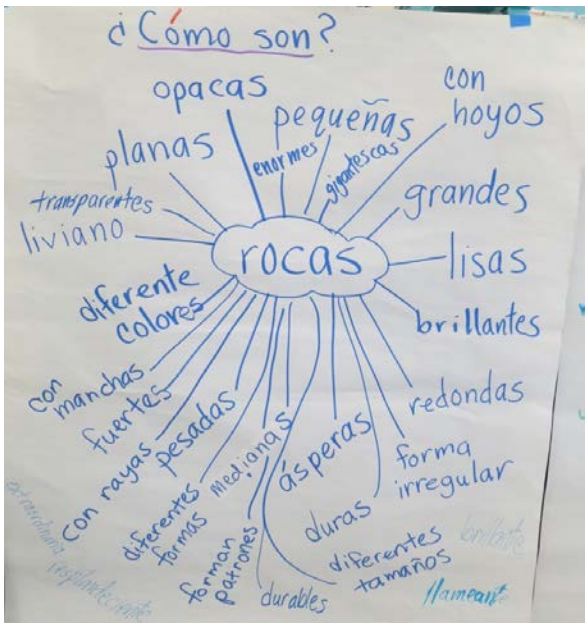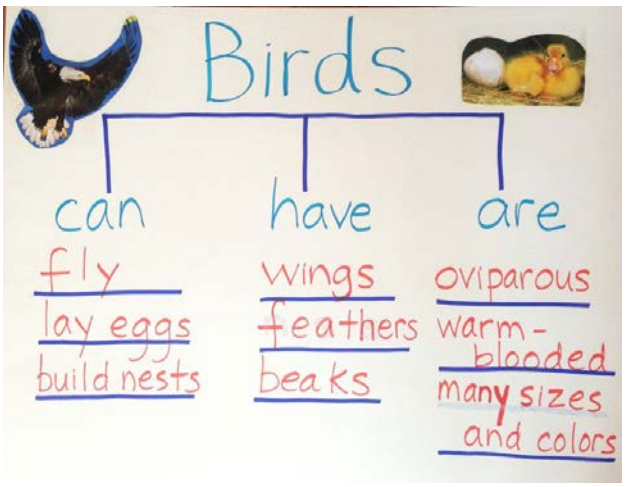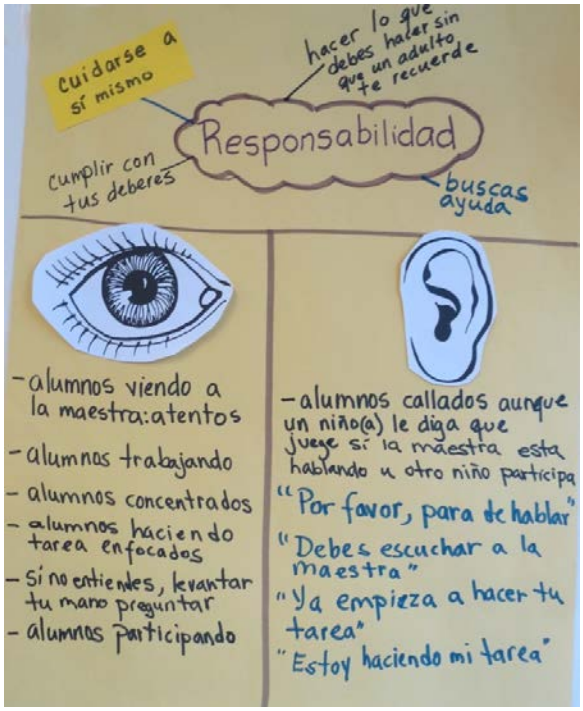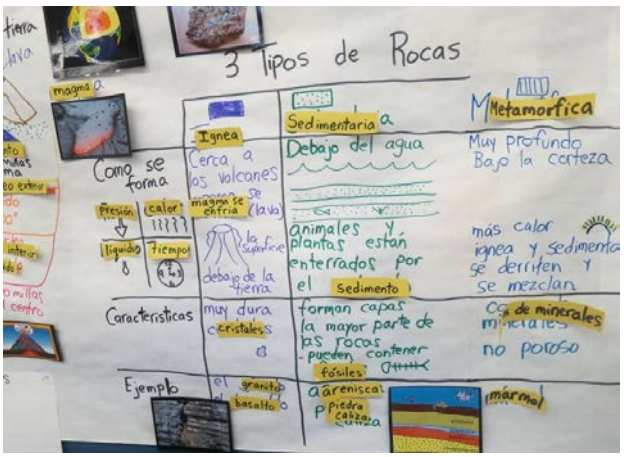
Photos of Description: