Making Predictions A-Z for “Understanding Hunger in Oregon”

Created by Emily Holden of Oregon State University

Description
Is hunger really a problem in Oregon? “Understanding Hunger in Oregon” examines the startling statistics about food insecurity in Oregon. Researchers are working to examine polling data that suggests, that despite average levels of poverty, Oregonians experience a lot of hunger.

Making Predictions A-Z for “Understanding Hunger in Oregon” will increase students’ literacy and comprehension skills. After reading a preview of the article students will be asked to make predictions about the upcoming text. Making predictions will activate prior knowledge, give students a direction for their reading and raise curiosity. Making Predictions A-Z for “Understanding Hunger in Oregon” encourages students to reach a higher level of Bloom’s Taxonomy of Cognitive Thinking and starts a conversation about hunger in Oregon.

Time Estimate
One 50-minute class period

Student Outcomes
• Students will explore what hunger means.
• Students will discuss possible causes for hunger in Oregon.

Standards
Language Arts
EL.HS.RE.01: Read at an independent and instructional reading level appropriate to grade level.
EL.HS.RE.02: Read and understand a wide variety of informational text.
EL.HS.RE.05: Match reading to purpose.
EL.HS.RE.06: Understand and use a variety of comprehension strategies as needed such as summarizing, class and group discussions and making predictions.
EL.HS.RE.08: Understand, learn and use new vocabulary that is taught through informational text.
EL.HS.RE.15: Read magazines and news stories.
EL.HS.RE.19: Identify and summarize sequence of events, main ideas, facts, supporting details and opinions.
EL.HS.RE.20: Clarify understanding of informational texts by creating graphic organizers.

Career-Related Learning Standards
CS.PM.02: Plan, organize, and complete assigned tasks on time, meeting standards of quality.
CS.HS.01: Locate, process and convey information using traditional tools.
Materials
- Copies of “Understanding Hunger in Oregon” from the 2009 issue of Oregon’s Agricultural Progress magazine, a special issue on Food in Oregon.
- Copies of “Understanding Hunger in Oregon” Making Predictions sheet for each student.

Vocabulary
Food insecurity: The inability to continually have access to sufficient food.

Food pantries: Organizations that provide food to those in need.

Food stamp program: Program that provides low-income families with funds to purchase food.

Gleaning: the gathering of unwanted food from various sources.

Hunger: Feeling caused by lack of food, can be temporary or reoccurring.

Poverty: Living on wages below a designated rate, the rate depends on numbers in the household and local cost of living.
Procedure for Making Predictions A-Z “Understanding Hunger in Oregon”

1) Review selected words and brainstorm about any additional words you may like to use.
2) Read the title and first two paragraphs of the article aloud to the class.
3) Divide students in groups of two.
4) Pass out the Making Predictions A-Z for Understanding Hunger in Oregon.
5) Instruct students to list words and make predictions about the text, starting with those letters bolded on the worksheet with their partner.
6) After about ten minutes, conduct a class discussion about the topic.
7) Pass out copies of the article and instruct students to read it with their partner.
8) Students should continue to add words to their list as they read.

Suggested Words
Abundance
Food
Hunger
Poverty
Seasonality
Making Predictions A-Z for “Hunger in Oregon”  
*Adapted from Travis Park of Cornell University*

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I predict that…. 