

Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan



generate:

to produce, create, or come up with
something

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Introduction:

One of the new vocabulary words for this unit is “generate”. Generate means “to produce, create or come up with something”. We can generate lots of different things. Power plants generate or create electricity. Advertisements on TV can generate interest in a TV show, a movie or a new product. When we are thinking, we generate new ideas and solutions for problems.

Let’s look at this picture to will help us understand the word generate. These people are teachers who all work at the same school and they are trying to generate ideas about how to raise money so their students can go on a special fieldtrip. (This type of thinking is also called brainstorming). Every time teacher generates an idea, their face lights up like the teacher at the bottom. The teacher with idea then shares it with the others and they write it down. Then everyone starts thinking again to generate additional ideas on how to raise the money needed. The teachers try to generate a lot of ideas so that they can select the best ones—the ideas that will raise the money they need for the field trip.

Example:

Here is another way you might use the word generate. Your teacher is about to introduce a new science unit about weather. In order to generate interest from the students, your teacher shows your class a video about storm trackers – people who chase hurricanes, tornados and storms. After the video, if the class is excited about weather and wants to learn more, your teacher has generated or created interest in the subject.

Reflection:

Think for a moment about why it might be important to generate several different ideas on how to do something before you actually did it. (If students have difficulty with this question, provide them with an example, such as ...”Suppose you were playing Frisbee and it landed on the roof of the house. Why might you want to generate several ideas on how to get it down safely?) *Generating ideas helps us to have several choices so we can select the best idea.*

Make it personal:

Let’s think for a minute about birthday parties. If you could have any kind of birthday party you wanted, what would it be like? We are all going to generate ideas and I will write them down. Raise your hand to share your idea. When you share, start your sentence with, “The idea I generated for the best birthday party is...”