



attribute:

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considered good or desirable

Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan

Introduction:

One of the new vocabulary words for this unit is **attribute**. An attribute is “a quality or feature, usually one that is considered to be good or desirable”. Both people and things can have attributes.

Let’s look at a picture to will help us understand the word attribute. A restaurant is looking for a new chef for their kitchen. They have specific attributes that they want the chef they hire to have. They want a chef who can cook well, work on several orders at the same time, and who can make the food look appetizing (delicious) when it leaves the kitchen. They also want a chef who can create new dishes for the restaurant and who works well with the other employees. These are the attributes (qualities) the restaurant wants the new chef to have.

Example:

Here is another example of the word attribute. Coins and dollar bills have attributes that make them very useful. One attribute of a coin is that it is made of metal so that it will last a long time. Coins are designed to last 30 years. One attribute of a dollar bill is that it is light-weight. This makes it possible to carry a lot of money easily. If all money were made out of coins, it would be very difficult to carry around more than just a few dollars.

Reflection:

I am going to name some items or people. I want you to think about the attributes you feel each of these should have. Each item may have several different attributes. Raise your hands to share your ideas. (*The answers listed are only suggestions. Accept any reasonable responses from your students.*)

- A dessert (sweet, delicious, chocolate)
- A good teacher (smart, funny, patient, interesting)
- A bicycle (comfortable seat, easy to pedal, fast)
- A Mars Rover landing site (flat, no big boulders)

Make it personal:

Suppose that you and your family are going to move into a new house or apartment. Think about the attributes—the good qualities and features—that you would like your new home to have. Share your ideas with a neighbor. Start your sentence with, “An attribute I want my new home to have is...” After you discuss your ideas, I will ask some of you share the attributes you thought of with the class.