

SOS SPOTLIGHT ON STRATEGIES

Simple instructional strategies that incorporate digital media in meaningful, effective, and practical ways.

CAN YOU GUESS MY 2-1-4?



My very creative friend and colleague, Lance Rougeux, started a project last year with his wife's class. When he travels, he gathers information about the location, and the students use the clues to figure out where in the world Mr. Rougeux went. He provides 2 facts, 1 clue, and 4 pictures (2-1-4) for the students. Hearing this idea, I thought of how many times I began a class period by saying, "Today we're going to be studying _____." With this idea in the back of my mind, I began to wonder how we can use this strategy to hook students and help them begin connecting important pieces of a unit together.



Materials: facts, images and clues about a topic your class is studying

1. Gather 2 facts, 1 clue, and 4 images about a topic your class is studying.
2. Present the facts to students one at a time.
3. Have students discuss the facts and make predictions about the what the topic might be.
4. Move on and share the clue. Ask students to refine their predictions based on the new information they have.
5. Finally, share images. You could do this one by one, or all at once.
6. Ask students to share their predictions in small groups, and then share out to the large group, providing justification for their predictions.



The images and clues you present to your students will help them learn how to make evidence-based inferences, leading them to logical conclusions about what they're learning! What a great way to learn more about what interests and motivates your students.



Have students create their own 2-1-4 based on content they are learning or on topics in which they are interested.

Post their 2-1-4 ideas on Discovery boards and share them to the Discovery community!