

THEME:	Sustainability
SCOPE & SEQUENCE UNIT:	Questions for Guest Speakers
OBJECTIVE:	Research techniques
ACTIVITY:	Brainstorming – KW&L

Notes:	In-class activity
Teacher Prep.:	Contact your local organizations to find a willing representative to come into the classroom and speak to the students (see following Units for examples). Even people not used to speaking to students should be encouraged to come in and share their expertise. In the end the students can lead the discussion with their questions. Encourage the guest speaker to consider bringing in any materials they could show and tell. Give the speaker a set time limit (i.e. 15 – 20 minutes)
Time:	~ 30 minutes

Skills:

- ◆ Critical & creative thinking
- ◆ Writing

Objectives:

- ◆ To explore a new topic by brainstorming, KWL, as a start to research
- ◆ To encourage student-led inquiry by having each student comfortable with one question to ask the guest speaker
- ◆ To prepare for note taking with a guest speaker

Vocabulary:

Dependent on guest speaker and topic

Introductory Discussion:

Let students know the guest speaker's area of expertise, their name, and affiliated organization. (Write this on the board). Brainstorm with the students. What do we know about our topic? What would we like to know? What questions might our guest speaker be able to answer?

List the brainstormed questions on the front board (or project while writing list on computer). Allocate the questions by having each student choose a question from the list. Each student writes out neatly (or types) his or her question on a separate piece of paper (scrap piece that won't get lost will do)

Review the Guest Speaker Notes Student Page with the students, reminding them how to use bullets for key points and that they should try to take these notes while the speaker is talking.

Reflection Discussion:

Ensure each student has prepared one question to ask the guest speaker. Ensure the question relates to the speaker's area of expertise. Store the written questions in a safe place until the time of the guest speaker.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Guest Speaker: _____

Organization: _____

Topic: _____

My notes: _____

My Conclusion:
