



Totally Cubular

Language Arts Extension



Goal: Students use a vocabulary cube to reinforce environmental climate change and energy terminology.

Objectives: Students will ...

- Apply vocabulary words using a variety of tools
- Understand language arts concepts of simile, metaphor, depiction, sentence formation, antonym and synonym

Materials: (for class of 30)

- 15 Totally Cubular – Vocabulary Cube Templates
- 15 scissors
- 30 copies of the Totally Cubular – Vocabulary List
- Tape
- Totally Cubular – Grading Rubric

Time Required: 45-60 minute period

Standards: LA1, LA3, LA4, LA12

Procedure:

- Review the Totally Cubular – Vocabulary List with students.
- Explain that students will be using a cube to help reinforce and understand the definitions.
- Show students a sample cube, ask one student to choose a word from the list, roll your cube, whatever side comes up, give students an example. Roll the cube again, but allow each student time to come up with an example and share answers with the class.
- Split class into pairs.
- Give each pair a Totally Cubular – Vocabulary Cube Template, tape and scissors.
- Students should build the cube by following the directions on the cube template.
- Call out a vocabulary word. Students should roll their cube and complete whatever task comes up. Randomly have students share.
- Repeat this process.

Assessment:

- Totally Cubular – Grading Rubric

Extensions:

- Students can use the cube at home and bring in their work for each roll they complete.
- Students can create a new cube with different tasks on each side.



Totally Cubular – Grading Rubric

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is constructed properly and soundly. <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is labeled clearly and is decorated attractively. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples for each word are excellent representations of a sentence, synonym, antonym, simile, depiction and metaphor. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples contain no more than one error.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is constructed properly. <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is labeled clearly and is decorated. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples for each word are good representations of a sentence, synonym, antonym, simile, depiction and metaphor. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples contain no more than three errors.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is constructed fairly well. <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is labeled clearly. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples for most words are good representations of a sentence, synonym, antonym, simile, depiction and metaphor. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples contain no more than five errors.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is not well constructed. <input type="checkbox"/> The vocabulary cube is labeled illegibly. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples for most words are poor representations of a sentence, synonym, antonym, simile, depiction and metaphor. <input type="checkbox"/> The examples contain more than five errors.
	Total Score:

Grading Scale:

4 = 93-100

3 = 92-82

2 = 81-70

1 = 69-0



Totally Cubular – Vocabulary List

Adaptation	The responsive adjustment of a sense organ (as the eye) to varying conditions; the process of adapting to something (such as environmental conditions).
Atmosphere	The area in which all air exists; this sphere contains all of the gases that surround the earth.
Biome	Major division of the ecological communities on earth characterized by the plant and animal life of that region.
Biosphere	The area in which all living things exist; this sphere includes all of the microorganisms, plants and animals of the earth, even humans.
Carbon Sink	A place where carbon accumulates and is stored. For Example, plants and trees are carbon sinks; they accumulate carbon dioxide during the process of photosynthesis and store it in their tissues as carbohydrates and other organic compounds.
Climate	Long-term pattern of weather that characterizes a region.
Ecosystems	Communities of plants, animals and bacteria, generally composed of producers, consumers and decomposers, which share a common physical and chemical environment.
Emission	Substance that is released or discharged, usually into the air; emit (verb).
Environment	The circumstances, objects or conditions by which one is surrounded.
Fossil Fuels	Deposits of organic matter that have been altered over geologic time (since the Earth's formation) and can be burned for energy; for example, coal, crude oil and natural gas.
Global Climate Change	A change in the long-term weather patterns that are characteristic of regions of the world.
Mitigation	To act in such a way as to cause an offense to seem less serious. Related to climate change, mitigation refers to actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions at their source or actions that remove greenhouses gases from the atmosphere.
Photosynthesis	The process by which plants use sunlight, water and carbon dioxide to produce their food.
Weather	Short-term (daily) changes in temperature, wind and/or precipitation in a region.



Totally Cubular – Vocabulary Cube Template

Directions: Build your vocabulary cube by cutting out the template along the outside lines and folding along the interior lines. Tape or glue the flaps. Add examples of each literary term and decorate appropriately!

