



<p>OWW 2.3 Using questions to develop a topic</p> <p>Learning Objective: <i>students will go outside to practice generating a list of possible questions to gather information on a topic</i></p> <p>Mentor Texts: "Look to the North", Jean Craighead George, RS "How Does the Mail Work?" "Sharks", Berger; "Baseball"</p>	<p>Connection: <i>We have been reading informational texts and thinking about how the authors gathered information to write their books. We know one way is through close observation and another is through books. But how do these authors know what information to look for?</i></p> <p>Teaching: One way authors begin to gather information is by making lists of all the things they know and want to know about something. What do you think Jean Craighead George already knew about wolves? What questions might she have had? Turn and talk with your partner. Share the questions with class. We can also look at "Sharks" and "Baseball" and see these authors wrote their books to answer questions they thought people might have about their subjects. Let's choose a topic from our outdoor classroom(from the list we have generated as a class) and using the graphic organizer on one side list everything you already know about <i>trees</i> and on the other list questions you have. (Share out some of the questions.)</p> <p>"Try It" Turn and talk and tell your partner which question you want to try to answer when we go outdoors. Why did you pick that one? Do you think you know what you will see?</p> <p>Instructions to students for Independent Outdoor Writing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Write down the question you will be trying to answer when we go outdoors to observe trees.2. Once we are outdoors, alone or with a partner, go to a tree and look very closely to try to find the answer to your question.
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Outdoor Writer's Workshop



3. Write down what you think the answer to the question might be, and write down, or draw, what you see that makes you think that is the answer to your question.
4. Does what you see make you think of a new question you might have? Write down your new question.

Share Out *Students return to the classroom and share out the questions they have and their answers. Students with the same questions can add to each others' information. This information can be charted by the teacher and later revisited for organizing information, writing "parts of sections" and organizing information in sections and chapters.*

Applying the Skill *Students can use this technique of asking questions inside the classroom. Generating a list of questions is a great way to begin to gather information about a topic, but you do not have to be outdoors. You can use the questioning technique to gather information from books and online sources as well as from people in your school, home and neighborhood.*

Students may also begin by using a K-W-L Chart that they draw in their notebooks.