

**Suggested Teaching Components**

- Develop appropriate vocabulary
- Follow the text structure and language features of an explanation
- Understand the purpose of an explanation
- Understand and respond to an explanation either orally or in writing
- Use a range of skills and strategies appropriate to the text, e.g. skimming and scanning, flow charts, scaffold
- Develop awareness of techniques used by writers to create certain effects and position the reader
- Develop an understanding of the role of visual texts, e.g. maps, diagrams in aiding comprehension
- Distinguish between causal and sequential relationships

**Suggested Themes, Topics and/or Experiences**

All curriculum areas, natural disasters, wars, natural phenomena, sport, leisure activities, communication, evolution, Internet, ecosystems, habitats, scientific concepts, mathematical problem solving

**Suggested Assessment Tasks**

- Read an explanation and prepare a flow chart or diagram
- Complete comprehension activities
- Design a poster presenting explanation
- Rearrange a wrongly sequenced explanation

**Sample Strategies****Teacher directed**

- Build field knowledge with visuals, e.g. video
- Model text structure and language features especially causal and temporal conjunctions
- Discuss purpose, differentiate between description and explanation
- Read an explanation as a group; elicit whether sequential or cause/effect or both
- Demonstrate how to summarise written information using flow charts

**Joint/guided**

- Read text and complete cause/effect chain
- Complete cloze on various language features, e.g. causal and temporal conjunctions, passive voice
- Match features that assist understanding, e.g. glossary, diagrams, topic sentences to separate body of explanation text
- Complete a sequencing activity
- Build noun groups using adjectives/adjectival phrases, e.g. the behaviour of invisible particles

**Independent**

- Develop glossary of technical terms
- Match sentences from a text split into a cause/effect sequence
- Provide topic sentences for a given paragraph
- Design a poster presenting explanation
- Locate topic sentences and summarise text