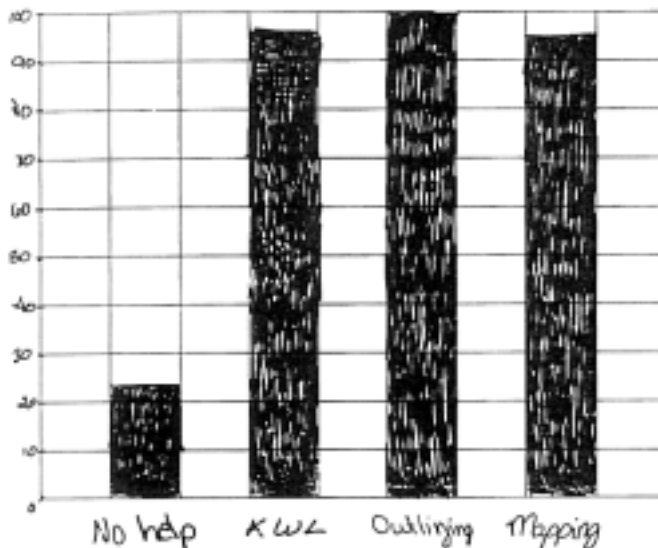


Sandra Bradford's Fourth Grade Research

Sandra Bradford, fourth grade teacher at Peterson School in Kalispell, Montana, conducted her week-long study within the ongoing social studies curriculum. She divided a chapter from her social studies text into four sections. On Monday, the class collected baseline data by simply reading the first section of the chapter without doing any organizing strategies. On each of the following days, they learned and used a new comprehension strategy. On Tuesday, they used an adaptation of Donna Ogle's K-W-L procedure in which they brainstormed about the topic, categorized information, and generated questions before beginning to read. On Wednesday, the children organized the material with a power outline. On Thursday, they constructed concept maps on the material. For each of the readings the students took a short quiz, graphed their individual tests results, and wrote personal reactions in learning logs. Sandra then asked her students to examine their own learning results and determine which of the strategies worked best for each individual. As predicted strategies worked differently for different people. An example of one student's graph and journal is presented below:

Sandra's study is a superb example of helping students begin to own strategies. Students did research on themselves and shared their results with one another. Practicing strategies, data collection, and talk about learning helped students come to their own conclusions.

Student Graph



Monday was No help
 → ^{student} Mrs. Bradford told us to read the pages and do the questions. I started and got a 25. I did not like it all all. I like it when she reads it with us.

Brain Storming KWL
 On Tuesday we did it by our seln. (logain) It was OK. I got 90%

Wed. Outlining
 On Wednesday I got a 100%. She taught us how outline and showed us how to do it.

Thurs. Mapping

I felt good about Mapping. I got a 95% on 11. It is fun, cause she showed us how and we read a sentence and put down the important stuff.

Fri.

I liked Mapping the best I like it because it is fun and it takes a lot of thinking.