



Time Words - Teacher's Notes

Time Words

Early thinkers thought that the Sun orbited the Earth. To them this explained why the sun appears to rise in the east on the morning and fall to the west at night. Hunter-gatherer people like Aboriginal Australians and Early Stone Age Europeans did not need to measure small amounts of time but their language tells us they understood the regular predictable progression of time through a day and a night. Ask your students to form pairs and see how many words they can write down that mark the passage of time over 24 hours that don't involve the use of numbers or a clock.

Method

After providing a few starter words the groups (of two or three students) are given scrap paper and 5 minutes to write down all the time words they can think of and then 5 more minutes to arrange them into a sequential timeline on the worksheet provided. Students share their words to be entered on a common day to night timeline on the board. This should demonstrate that time travels in a regular and predictable way.

An easy way to remember the direction the Earth turns is to make a fist of your right hand with your thumb pointing upwards to the north. The direction your fingers fold to form the fist is the direction the world turns on its axis.

Most mobile phones have free compass Apps. To help you find north.

