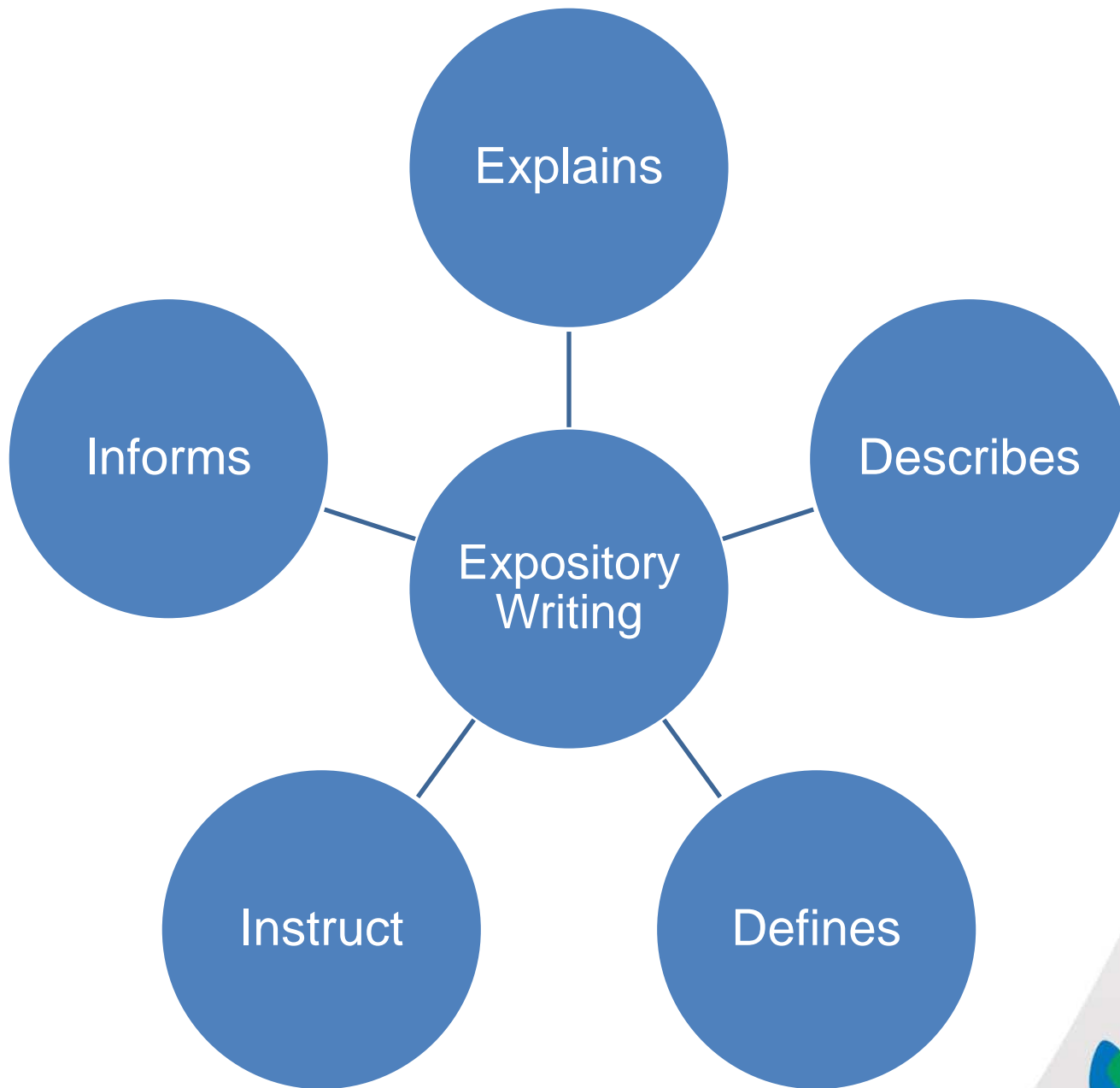
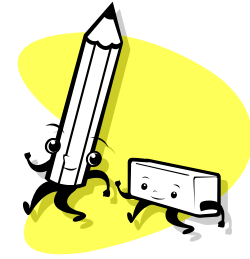


What is Expository Writing?

- Often used in school & in real-world careers.
- Factual writing for the purpose of informing others.
- The purpose is to collect and synthesize information to inform an audience of others.
- Organization helps the reader glean information presented in a straight-forward, logical, sequential way.
- Graphic organizers are useful for planning.



Expository Writing



- Examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
 - Tell about a person, place, thing, event or idea.
 - Has a topic sentence.
 - Includes supporting details, facts, examples, or explanations.
 - Has a conclusion.

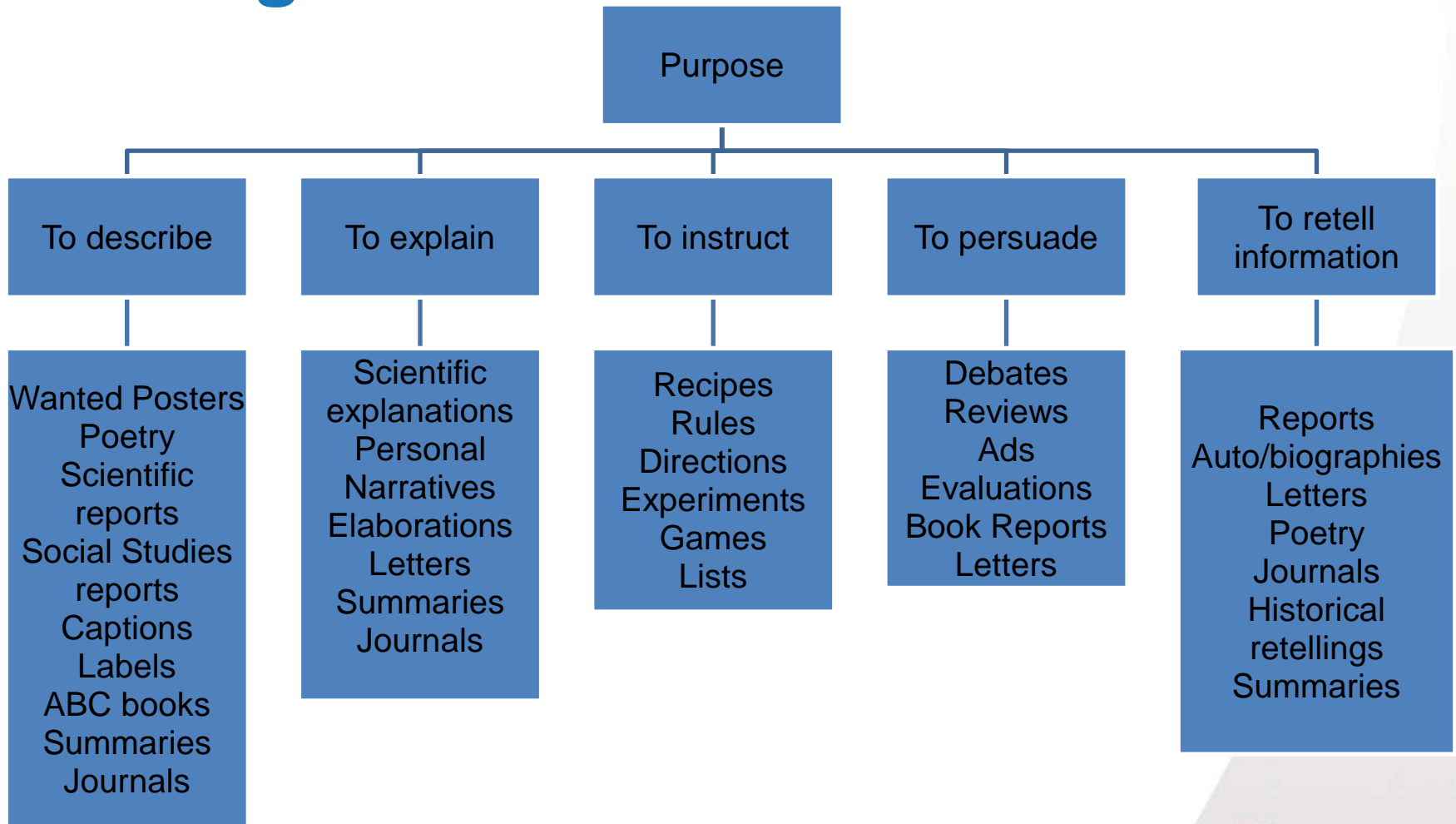
Why Expository Writing?

- Share our expertise with others and develop self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Write for a wider audience with authentic purposes.
- Develop an understanding of a topic of study.
- Enhance vocabulary, visual literacy, and the use of technology.
- Demonstrate ability to write in different text forms.

Why Expository Writing?

- Take **ownership** for **learning about our world** and being able to share that knowledge with others.
- Develop strategies for building content and find ways to **organize** and **synthesize** our **learning**.
- **Build curiosity** for the world through **inquiry**.
- Provide **choice** – especially for those of us who prefer reading and writing nonfiction over reading and writing fiction.

Purposes & Types of Expository Writing



Types of Expository Writing

- All About Writing
 - You can share what you know about a subject
 - Descriptive structure with main idea and details
 - After reading about pumpkins, I learned...
- How To Writing
 - You can share how to do something
 - Step-by-step sequential structure
 - How to build a snowman



Questions Writers Should Consider

- Identify and understand the topic – Do I know the topic and what I'm expected to do?
- Develop a thesis – Which statement can I craft that clearly expresses the focus of my written response?
- Select and analyze relevant content – What information would support my thesis?
- Convey ideas clearly and precisely – Can the reader follow my connections between the text and my thesis? Are my supporting points clear?
- Determine the best organizational structure – What would be the best structure to develop my thesis?

Useful Skills for Expository Writing

- **organization** – understand the format and characteristics of this kind of writing.
- **crafting clear main ideas** – the body is made up of paragraphs, each defined by a main idea. Each main idea is explored through a variety of supporting facts and details.
- **supporting details** – avoid simply creating a “grocery list” of facts; expand on facts with details; incorporate powerful techniques for showing rather than telling which include the use of quotes, anecdotes, statistics.
- **Introduction/conclusion** – set a purpose for reading and engage and interest the reader.

Organization

- Information is arranged and presented in a logical, sequential manner, with like details grouped together.
 - Introduction - Grabs the reader's attention (lead) and tells the reader what the entire piece will be about (topic sentence).
 - Body - A number of paragraphs, each with a broad yet distinct main idea sentence, which explains what the paragraph is about, followed by a variety of supporting details.
 - Conclusion - The final paragraph which creatively reiterates the main ideas and restates the thesis or topic sentence in a general way.

Graphic Organizers

- Topic: _____
- Main Idea 1: _____
- Main Idea 2: _____
- Main Idea 3: _____
- Main Idea 4: _____

Graphic Organizer Example

- Topic: Rain Forest
- Main Idea 1: Climate/Weather
- Main Idea 2: Plants/Trees
- Main Idea 3: Animals
- Main Idea 4: Deforestation

INTRODUCTION
Lead/Topic Sentence

Main Idea#1 _____

Detail

Detail

Detail

Detail

Main Idea#2 _____

Detail

Detail

Detail

Detail

Main Idea#3 _____

Detail

Detail

Detail

Detail

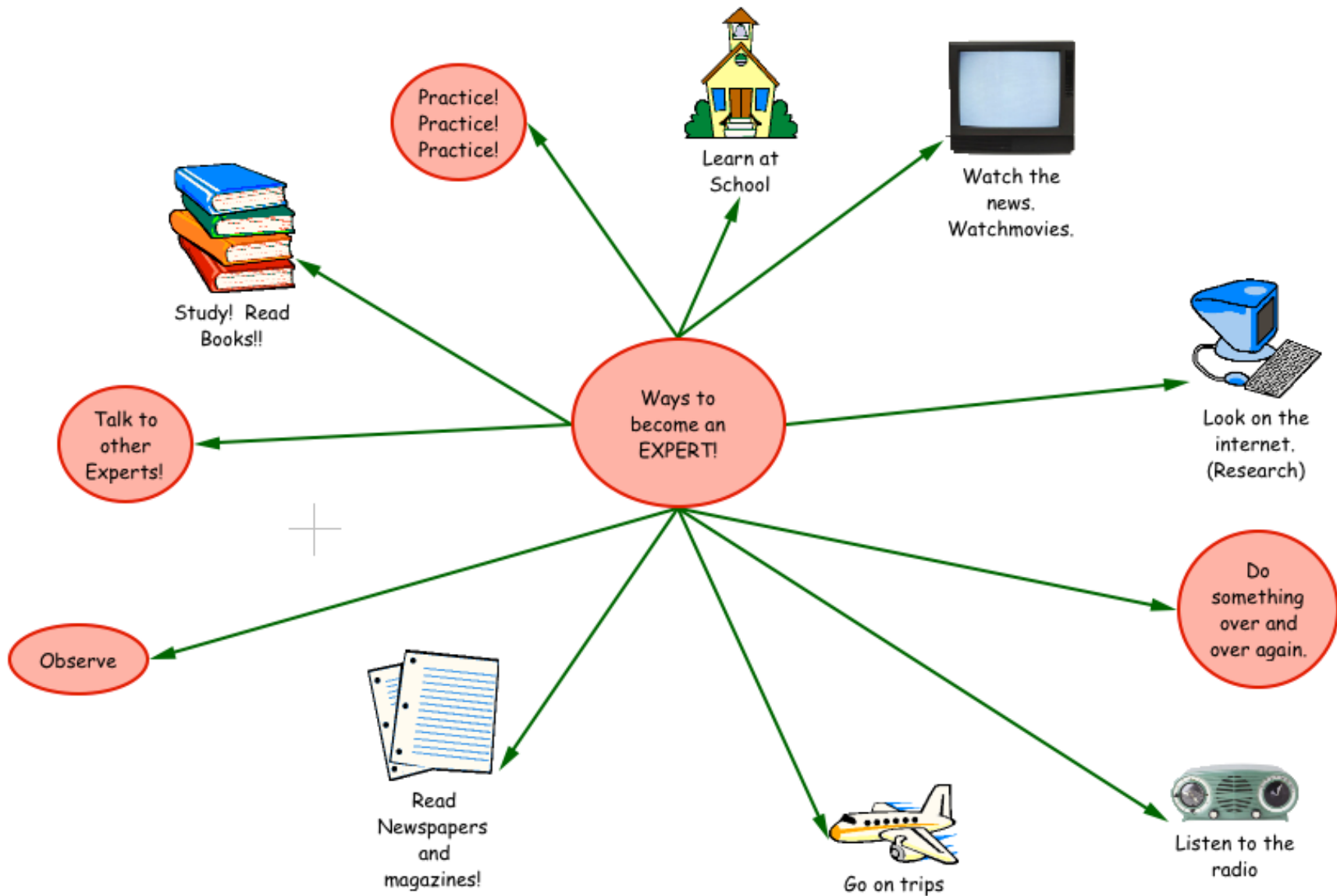
CONCLUSION

Generating Ideas

- Help students find topics they are interested in and knowledgeable about.



“The best nonfiction writing and research begins with a writer’s passionate curiosity about a subject.” – J. Portalupi



Detail Generating Questions

- An important part of any expository piece is the details that support the main ideas. To help explain the main ideas in the greatest details we use detail generating questions.
 - What does it look/sound/feel/taste/smell/seem like?
 - Why is that important (for your main idea)?
 - Is each detail in a separate sentence?
 - Did you give specific examples? (avoid words like stuff and things)



Bio-Poem Activity

Line 1- First name only

Line 2- Four adjectives that describe the person

Line 3- Sibling of... (OR daughter of . . . , mother of . . . , etc.)

Line 4- Lover of... (3 people or ideas)

Line 5- Who feels... (3 feelings the person experienced)

Line 6- Who needs... (3 items)

Line 7- Who gives... (3 items)

Line 8- Who fears... (3 items)

Line 9- Who would like to see... (3 items)

Line 10- Resident of... (your city and/or state)

Line 11- Last name only



Bio-Poem Example

Rosa

Determined, brave, strong, loving

Wife of Raymond Parks, mother of all children

Who loved equality, freedom, and the benefits of a good education

Who hated discrimination, loved to stand up for her beliefs, and loved to help others

Who feared that racism would continue, feared losing the opportunity to make a difference, and feared that young people might lose opportunities to develop strength and courage

Who changed history as she accomplished great strides for equality and encouraged excellence for all

Who wanted to see love triumph and see an end to all bias and discrimination in a world in which respect is freely given to all

Born in Alabama and living in Detroit

Parks

from *www.ReadWriteThink.org*



Essentials in teaching expository writing

- Teach readers a lot of information and make them interested in the information.
- Use both text and additional text features to teach information.
- Nonfiction has a predictable structure of topic and subtopics.
- Nonfiction texts have specific vocabulary.

How to choose appropriate mentor text...

- Does the topic of at least one of my mentor texts show how a writer can teach about a topic of personal expertise? (i.e., grasshoppers or baseball)
- Does the book use an “I” teaching voice rather than an authoritative, third-person teaching voice?
- Is the text organized in a straightforward way, as in topics and subtopics?
- Is the syntax of the text simple enough that a child might listen to the text and think, “I could write a text like that.”

Your Turn!

Now ask yourself:

- What is expository writing?
- What is the purpose of expository writing?



Check for Understanding

- What is expository writing?
 - Factual writing for the purpose of informing others.
- What is the purpose of expository writing?
 - The purpose is to collect and synthesize information to inform an audience of others.

