

Common Structures of Informational Text

Structure	Example	Clue Words	Strategy
Description A detailed description or explanation of a topic	A text about tornadoes.	characteristics, for example, such as, including	Students use a Main Idea/Detail Frame to help organize their thinking around details of the text.
Cause & Effect Explanation for how one event leads to another	What happens to communities impacted by tornadoes.	because, therefore, cause, effect, since, due to, so	Students use a Placemat to share their perspective and thinking in answering the question, "What happens to communities impacted by tornadoes?"
Compare & Contrast How ideas, events, people, concepts, etc. are similar and different	How tornadoes are the same and/or different from wind storms or other natural disasters.	both, alike, unalike, different, similar, but, although, also, either/or	Students use a Concept Map (such as a Venn Diagram) to compare and contrast tornadoes and windstorms or other natural disasters.
Problem/Solution Identifies what went wrong (problem) and how it was or could be fixed (solution).	What problems tornadoes cause and solutions to those problems.	problem, because, if/then, so that, in order to, solution	Students engage in a Brief Response to Challenge to discuss potential solutions to problems caused by tornadoes.
Sequence/ Chronological Presents events or ideas when or in what order they happen.	How a storm becomes a tornado.	first, second, next, then, before, after, finally	Students use List-Group-Label to identify and record information/vocabulary from the text and work together to organize into sequential categories.

Source:

Eric - Education Resources Information Center. (n.d.). Retrieved March 14, 2023, from <u>https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED512029.pdf</u>

Text structure. AdLit. (n.d.). Retrieved March 14, 2023, from https://www.adlit.org/in-the-classroom/strategies/text-structure