

On Thin Ice



Teachers Information:

For this activity the students will practice using a specific point of view.

Objectives:

- The student will participate in a discussion on point of view.
- The student will read and discuss a story illustrating point of view.
- The student will write a story, first choosing the point of view.

Materials:

This lesson requires only a class set of the story "On Thin Ice" and writing materials.

Procedure:

1. Discuss how point of view changes the facts of an event entirely. Some movies that have capitalized on point of view are "A Bug's Life" and "Toy Story." Talk about how even a person's point of view "changes the story."
2. Some familiarity with key vocabulary is important to this story.
Important words include:
- microbe - flagella - apocalypse - cytoplasm - apocalypse - fault line
3. Read the story as a class.
4. Use the following questions to initiate discussion.
 - According to this author, what was life like as a microbe?
 - What were some clues that this was a microbe's life?
 - What were some clues that this took place on Mars?
 - What do you think may have been causing the earthquakes on Earth?
5. Have students write. Monitor and conference students as they work.

Rationale

Perspective is an important concept in every field. In writing, it is a critical consideration and needs to be brought to the conscious level so that students can successfully utilize it.

