

Using Technology to Support Reading Best Practices

Cow is to Milk as Chicken is to...



Kidspiration Lesson Plan

Grade Levels: 2-5

A feature in Kidspiration allows teachers to customize the symbol libraries, helping students focus on developing relationships among concepts rather than searching through the plentiful symbol libraries. Practice creating custom symbol libraries while helping students understand analogies.

1. From the *Kidspiration* main menu, choose New Picture.
2. Go to the Teacher and choose Enable Teacher Menu.
3. Go to the Teacher menu and choose New Symbol Library...
4. Enter the name you wish to assign to the new library in the text box (e.g. Analogies). Then click OK.
5. Go to the Teacher menu and choose Edit Symbol Libraries...
 - If your new Custom library does not appear, use the down arrow key next to Custom- to choose the name you assigned.
6. Using the down arrow from an existing symbol library (e.g. “Basic”), scroll down to a symbol library name and release the mouse.
7. Click on a symbol you want in your Custom Library. Holding the mouse down, drag the picture and then release in a square in the Custom Library.
 - Rearrange the order of the symbols in the library by dragging a symbol to the new desired location.
 - Delete a symbol from a Custom Library by dragging it to the trash can.
 - Change the label for any symbol in your Custom Library by changing the text in the Label text box.
8. Click OK when you are finished creating the Custom Library.
9. To use the customized library, click on the down arrow in the current symbol library and choose Custom. Use the right arrow to scroll to the correct customized library.
10. Use your custom library to illustrate an analogy. Place three symbols on the screen.
11. Use the linking tool to link the first two symbols.
12. Click on the link to show the text box. In the text box, type is to.
13. Ask students to identify a symbol to complete the analogy. Repeat steps 11-12 to link the last two symbols.
14. Use the text box tool, draw a text box at the bottom of the screen for writing the analogy.
15. Have students use the customized symbol library to illustrate and write their own analogy.

Extension

Have students save two files. The first file shows the analogy without the answer. The second file shows the analogy with the answer. Print out both files and compile into a class book.