

PBL: Green Advice

This problem will follow the KWWL format

Step 1: Scenario

Roberta Imastumped recently moved to Danville , from New York City . She has written the following letter to the Contra Costa Times garden editor, James Greenthumb, who writes the Green Advice Column.

Dear Mr Greenthumb,

I hope you can help me with this problem. I had such a beautiful garden back in New York City . I brought some of my more colorful and beautiful plants across the country with me. I have planted them in my garden in Danville , and much to my dismay, I am seeing some very strange results.

Some of my plants that grow pink flowers are now growing BLUE flowers!!! What is going on? These blue plants appear to be growing normally except the color of the flowers.

This is very distressing, as my color scheme for the flower garden is pinks, and now this one set of BLUE plants is standing out like a sore thumb. So Mr. Greenthumb, I really need your help before any more of my plants turn Blue.

Sincerely,

“Blue in Danville ”, Roberta Imastumped

Step 2: K: Prior Knowledge (small group 5 min, share out)

What do you already know about plants?

Step 3: “W”... Develop a clear problem statement, relative to prior knowledge.

List what is need to know to solve the problem, solicit references (student generated), textbook, on-line, experts, library, etc.

Step 4: “W”...what you need to do: list possible actions, recommendations, solutions, hypothesis based on the information taken from the references, list any new questions.

Step 5: Experimentation

Step 6: “L” ..what was learned. (Seminar) Present or support solution, oral or written findings and recommendations. In the form of a newspaper article for the “Green Advice Column” includes problem, analysis of data and support for the solution/recommendation.