



An Introduction to *Encapsulation*

Encapsulation is a critical thinking strategy which helps students communicate in a more concise and precise manner. It is also an organizational tool that helps students focus on main ideas and key words. Encapsulation is not a summary or a simplified restatement of information or opinions. It is synthesizing information and nuances to capture the essence of an idea, object, or activity.

ACTIVITY (time required: 30–40 minutes, plus additional time to view and discuss classmates' license plates)

1. Write 2BA STR, LCKE 4U, and NTYMWEC on the board. Lead students through a discussion of what the plates are communicating. What does each plate say about its owner?
2. Explain that personalized license plates are examples of ENCAPSULATION. They give us the essence of a statement a person wants to make about his or her personality or life.
3. Hand out GR8 PL8S and ask students to complete it. Go over their responses together when they are finished. Discuss the different interpretations of some license plates.
4. Ask students to use the back of the handout to brainstorm several license plate encapsulations that communicate the essence of who they are.
5. Provide students with pieces of poster board cut to about the size of a license plate. Have them choose their best idea and create their own GR8 PL8. (This could be done as “morning work” or over the course of several days.)
6. Post the plates in the classroom. Give students an opportunity to guess the meaning of each other's plates, then conclude this activity with a class discussion that allows students to compare their predictions with the actual meanings of the plates.

Answers to GR8 PL8S

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|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. dream bigger | 8. you are great |
| 2. smile 4 me | 9. live, laugh, love |
| 3. never grow up | 10. destined to be great |
| 4. lives for summer | 11. good to be me |
| 5. loves to have fun | 12. too good to be true |
| 6. to see me run | 13. kids for president |
| 7. swim or sink | |



Name _____

GR8 PL8S

The license plates below are examples of Encapsulation. The words have been shortened to communicate the essence of someone's personality, life, or to make a statement. Decode each plate and write the saying beside it.

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|-----------|------------------------|
| DRM BGR | 1. <u>Dream Bigger</u> |
| SML 4 ME | 2. _____ |
| NVR GRWUP | 3. _____ |
| LVZ4 SMR | 4. _____ |
| LV2 HVFN | 5. _____ |
| 2C MERN | 6. _____ |
| SWM R SNK | 7. _____ |
| UR GR8 | 8. _____ |
| LV LAF LV | 9. _____ |
| DST 2B G8 | 10. _____ |
| GD 2BME | 11. _____ |
| 2GD 2BTR | 12. _____ |
| KDZ 4 PRZ | 13. _____ |