

THE PROCESS GRID

Desert Life

There are at least 3 important uses of the Process Grid!

1. It is the “**backbone**” of the content of the unit.
 - a. The *categories* across the top directly address the standards of the unit. These categories should be developed in detail in the Big Book.
 - b. The *examples* that run vertically down the left side are the examples that the standards are developed through. The first row matches the content of the Pictorial Input Chart. The content of the 2nd -5th row will be developed in the **Expert Groups**.
 - c. Teachers planning a unit, or looking at an already created unit they are thinking about adapting, should begin the planning with the creation of the Process Grid!
2. The **Process Grid Game** is an activity where the students work in teams to summarize and report out on the most important information for each *example* in each category. This helps students deepen their understanding while requiring them to negotiate for meaning and report out using academic language. It’s also a lot of FUN! (See attached strategy for game direction.)
3. After playing the **Process Grid Game**, the filled out Process Grid can be used as a resource for writing. One approach, called the **Cooperative Strip Paragraph** strategy, is for the teacher to create a topic sentence that she/he discusses with the students, highlighting important words. The teacher then “walks” the Process Grid with his/her fingers and helps students create supporting sentences from the language and content on the Process Grid. This is a wonderful way to teach students to create their own writing from what they know and to avoid plagiarism!

Organism	Description	Location	Adaptation	Interesting Facts
Gila Monster	-18 to 24 inches long -Venom in teeth -Bead-like scales -Diurnal	-Mojave Desert -Sonoran Desert -Chihuahuan Desert	-Stores fat in tail and abdomen -burrows in ground -hides under rocks	-One of two venomous species of lizards
Saguaro Cactus	-flowers -thick, whitish pith -fleshy tissue -can grow 50 ft tall -vertical, pleated ribs	-Sonoran Desert	-ribs expand to hold water for dry desert days -spines -shallow roots 90 ft long	-Can live up to 200 years -weighs up to 10 tons -flower blooms only 1 day
Ferruginous Hawk	-largest but breed -bird of prey -rusty colored -22.5 to 25 inches long -53 to 56 inch wingspan	-Mojave Desert -Sonoran Desert -Chihuahuan Desert	-able to hunt four ways	-make pellets -name origin “royal” “kingly” -eggs hatch up to two weeks apart
Cicada	-insect -inch or more in length -green with red and black -3-jointed beak -2 pair of wings	-Mojave Desert -Chihuahuan Desert -Sonoran Desert	-can fly when its hot, avoids predators	-17 year Cicada comes out after 17 years -makes noises to attract a female -uses abdominal membranes to make noises (timbals)
Joshua Tree	-evergreen -has fruit -has unpleasant odor -largest yucca -15-40 feet tall -1-3 feet around	-Mojave Desert	-stores water for hot, dry periods -conserves energy by not producing flowers	-can only reproduce with the aid of the <i>Pronuba</i> moth -can live several 100 years

Blank Process Grid Template

Examples	Category of Info 1	Category of Info 2	Category of Info 3	Category of Info 4
(PIC)				
(Expert Group 1)				
(Expert Group 2)				
(Expert Group 3)				



(Expert Group 4)				
------------------	--	--	--	--

What other uses of the Process Grid can you come up with?

