

## Literacy Tips



Tips for middle school educators on various topics such as grammar, writing, reading, spelling, vocabulary, cooperative learning and more.

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### Tip #21: P.L.A.N.

P.L.A.N. is a study-reading strategy for use with informational text. This strategy is used before reading, during reading, and after reading. This strategy will help your students improve their comprehension of their content area reading.

#### **P = predict**

Have students [predict](#) the content and text structure of what they are going to be reading. They should base their predictions on the chapter title, subtitles, boldfaced words, and information from graphics. Direct them to make a semantic map of their ideas.

#### **L = locate**

Students should [locate](#) the information they already know from their semantic map by placing checkmarks (✓) next to familiar concepts. Then have them reread their map and place question marks (?) next to unfamiliar concepts. This causes students to activate their prior knowledge, which is one of the most important things we can do with students before reading informational text.

#### **A = add**

The third step is to [add](#) notes to their semantic map as they read the informational text. They should add notes

to clarify the questions they had earlier, but they should also add notes to elaborate on the checkmarked concepts they already knew.

#### **N = note**

The final step is to [note](#) what they have learned after reading. This is done in an entirely new activity and not with the semantic map they have created. This activity should be planned in such a way so that the students can "show off" their new knowledge. Have them write a learning log entry, a letter to a younger student explaining the concept, a summary, etc. This step allows you to evaluate your students' actual learning.

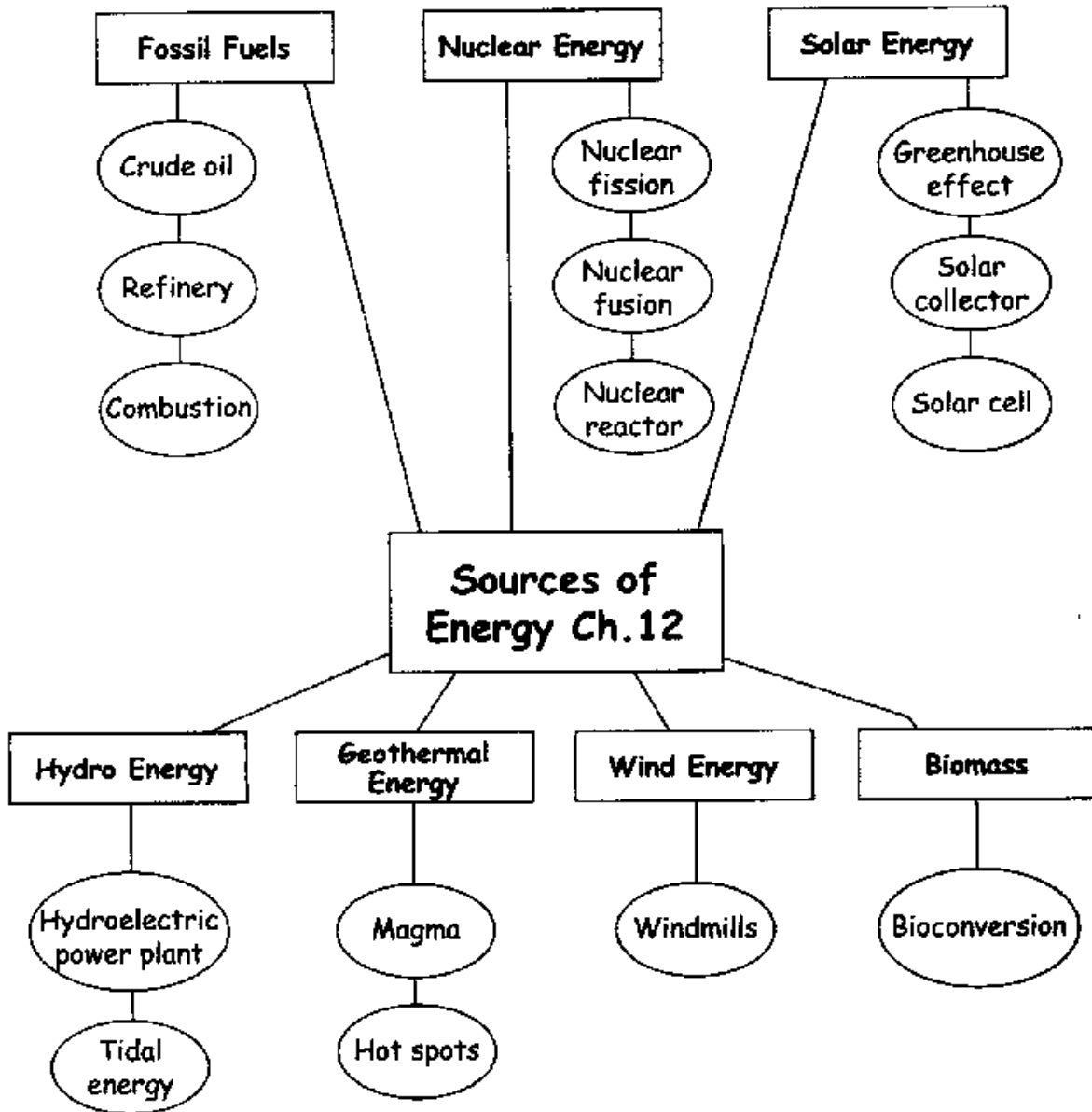
#### **Source**

Barton, Mary and Deborah L. Jordan. [Teaching Reading in Science](#). Aurora: Mid-continental Research of Education and Learning, 2001.

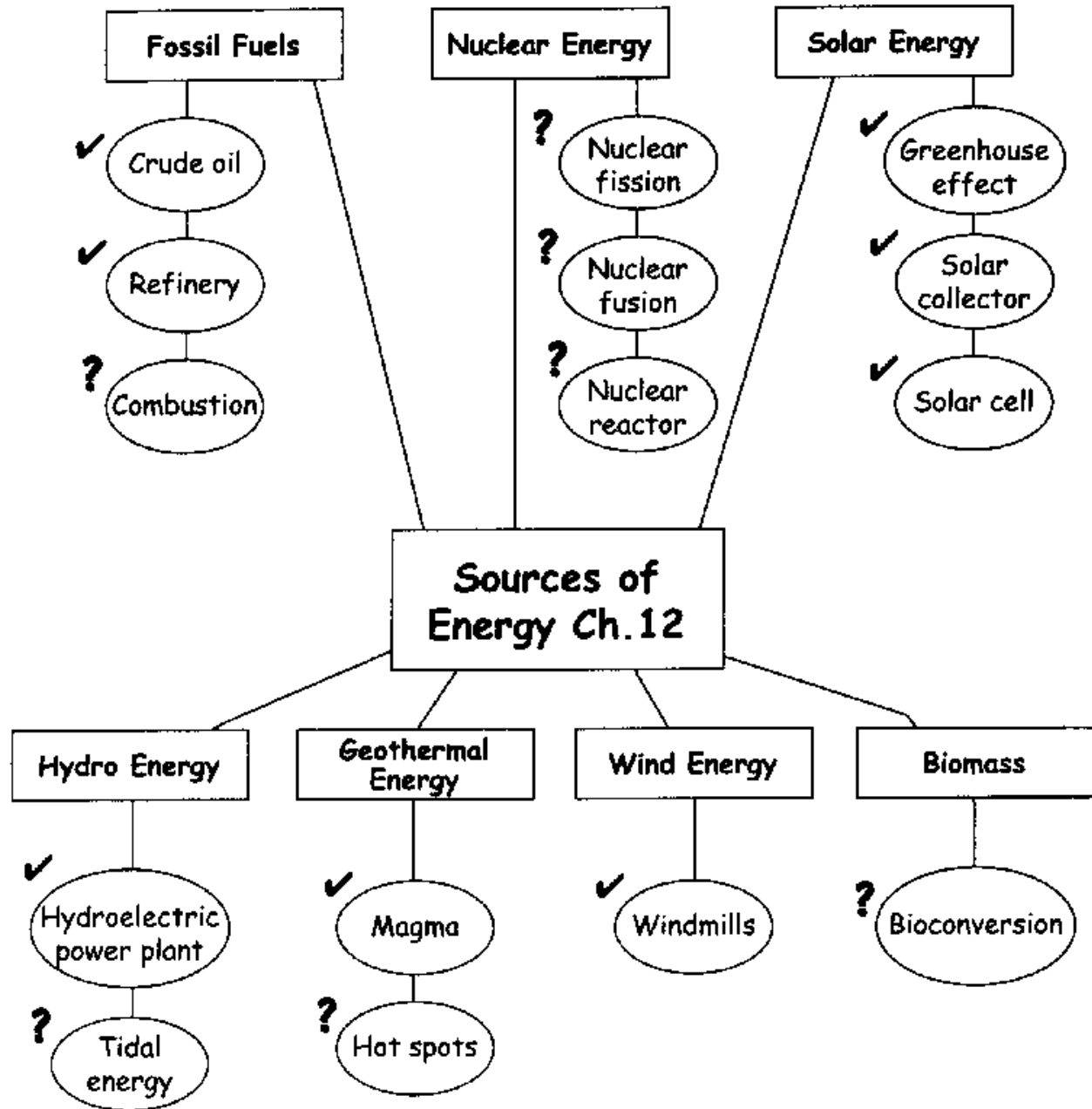
<http://shop.ascd.org/ProductDisplay.cfm?ProductID=302269>



## Step 1: Predict



## Step 2: Locate



### Step 3: Add

