

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

Gas vs. Electric

Lesson Plan for *Electric Cars*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students practice comparing two topics explained by a text, identifying which details describe which topic.

Things Needed:

- 6 copies of the *Electric Cars* book
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Divide students into six groups and give each group a copy of *Electric Cars*. Also give each group a sheet of paper.

Activity

Electric Cars describes some of the differences between cars that get power from electric motors and cars that get power from gasoline engines. Today, students will practice comparing and contrasting these two types of cars.

Students in each group should fold their paper in half to create two columns. At the top of the left column, students should write the header "Cars That Use Electricity." As they read through *Electric Cars*, students should write down at least four facts about electric cars in this column. At the top of the right column, students should write the header "Cars That Use Gas." Students should use this column to list at least four facts about cars that use gas. Students should look for the facts in all parts of the text, including the photo captions and the purple fact boxes.

After reading the book, students should use the information in their columns to write two sentences. Each sentence should describe one way that electric cars and gas-powered cars are different.



Evaluation

Collect the papers after the activity. Give each group 1 point for each sentence and 1 point for each fact they wrote down in the correct column, for a total of 10 points.

Answer Key

Students should have four facts in each column, but they can include any four facts listed below:

Cars That Use Electricity

- Electric cars run on batteries (p. 4).
- Electric cars must be plugged in to charge their batteries (p. 9).
- People can plug the cars in to a charging station or a wall outlet (p. 9).
- The batteries must be charged for the car's motor to start (p. 11).
- The first electric cars were made in the 1800s (p. 7).
- A controller sits between an electric car's batteries and motor (p. 11).
- When the driver steps on an electric car's pedal, the controller sends power to the motor (p. 11).
- The controller controls the car's speed (p. 11).
- Electric cars do not pollute the air as much as gas cars do (p. 16).
- Electric cars can be expensive (p. 18).

Cars That Use Gas

- Almost everyone uses a car that needs gas (p. 7).
- Most cars today run on gas (p. 14).
- Gas, and the cars that use it, pollutes the air (p. 14).
- Some cars, called hybrids, use both gasoline engines and electric motors (p. 14).
- People pump gas at gas stations (p. 17).
- Cars that use gas can drive farther than cars that use electricity (p. 18).

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.3, 1.5).

