Sequence graphic organizers

Sequence graphic organizers show the order of key events or processes. There are two common formats for depicting sequence. The first is linear sequence. For example, the order in which key events took place in history would be linear sequence. The steps in performing an experiment would also be linear sequence. The second type is cyclic sequence. These types of graphics depict a cycle of key events or processes. From science, an example would be the life cycle of a butterfly. From social studies, an example would be the cycle associated with use of Gandhi’s peaceful resistance model to facilitate social change.

Using Webs & Frames to depict sequential relationships

Linear Sequence Webs
The graphic organizer shown here uses a series of “mini-webs” to depict ideas in a series.
Language Arts Example
You may use a Linear Sequence Web to clarify steps in a process

What is this whole thing about?

The writing process

Think Ahead to plan
Who is the audience?
Use a graphic to note ideas

Think During when writing
What do you want to happen?
Use bubbles to reorder ideas on graphic
Add ideas not on the graphic as needed

Think Back to edit & revise
Follow the numbers on the Graphic
Tell yourself to write more about each idea
Ask, "Does this make sense?"

So what? What is important to understand about it?
Following the steps of the writing process will result in great writing that is well organized, clear, and free of errors.

Linear Sequence Frames
The Linear Sequence Frame shows the order of events. Although the graphics shown below depict the order of five events, any number can be used.

simple
Linear Sequence Frame

How a bill becomes a law
Sponsor writes bill
Members of House vote
Members of Senate vote
President signs or vetoes
Congress may vote to override
Social Studies Example
You may use a Linear Sequence graphic to clarify steps in a process

**How a bill becomes a law**

**What is this whole idea about?**

- **Sponsor writes bill**
  - People who want new law find a sponsor
  - Draft of bill written
  - Committee decides if bill will be considered

- **Members of House vote**
  - Bill debated in special committee
  - To win support, parts of bill rewritten
  - Politicians "trade favors" to get support
  - If enough support, House votes approval

- **Members of Senate vote**
  - Bill debated in special committee
  - To win support, parts of bill rewritten
  - Politicians "trade favors" to get support
  - If enough support, Senate approves

- **President signs or vetoes**
  - If president wants bill, it is signed into law
  - Bill can be vetoed if president does nothing
  - President can also "stamp" veto on the bill

- **Congress may vote to override**
  - Majority vote may override veto
  - If no majority, bill fails to become law

**So what? What is important to understand**

For a bill to become a law, it must have a great deal of support in Congress. Presidents have some power to keep a bill from becoming a law, but power is limited if a majority of Congress wants the new law.
Social Studies Example
You may use a Linear Sequence Graphic to depict the stages of history or a series of events

**Key Topic**
Evolution of Europe
is about
how European civilization evolved through stages

**Main idea**
The Middle Ages

**Essential details**
Life was either very bad or very good b/c only two classes
"Common" person uneducated; never traveled far
Art focused on religion - very dull colors
Feudal type of government

**Main idea**
The Renaissance

**Essential details**
Trade increase --> new middle class
Led to an increase in education and the arts
Art focused on humans; very realistic
"city-states" gov't (Italy) allowed Renaissance to start

**Main idea**
The Reformation

**Essential details**
Merchant class allowed trade specialization; created leisure time
Increase in education = more people read the Bible themselves
Artists used woodcuts (drawings) to spread Protestant ideas
Pope's weakened power = end of Holy Roman Empire

**Main idea**
The Age of Discovery

**Essential details**
Leisure time = more time for exploration
Education = new map-making technology & navigating skills
Maps became more real and less fantasy
Monarchs were able to support explorers

**BIG IDEA** (What is important to understand about this?)
From the 400s to the 1600s Europe went through many stages -- each affected by each other and every movement prepared for the next one. Big idea -- stages in history never just occur for no reason -- key things happen that cause big changes in society

HOME USING GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS
EXAMPLES & EXPLANATIONS
Parallel Sequences
Parallel sequences can also be depicted graphically. For example, in language arts, the Parallel Sequence Frame can be used when comparing story lines from two different stories. Likewise, they can also be used when depicting similar processes from social studies (e.g., how establishing a colony is like preparing for war).

**simple Parallel Sequence**

**Jamestown Colony**
- Assemble Investors
- Organize Expedition
- Endure Hardship
- Establish Colony

**Operation Desert Storm**
- Assemble Allies
- Organize Armed Forces
- Endure Hardship
- Establish Foreign Bases

How are these events parallel?
Social Studies Example

In the example below, the teacher compared the stages of development of the Jamestown Colony with the stages of development of Operation Desert Storm. The intent of the teacher was to link concepts from history (development of Jamestown Colony) with something students were familiar with. At the time of this lesson, the war with Iraq had just occurred the previous spring, so students were very familiar with it.

Establishing Residence on Foreign Soil

What is this whole thing about?

Jamestown Colony

- Establish Virginia Co. of Jamestown
- Look for sponsors = ($$) for colony
- Assemble Investors
- 100 men & boys volunteered
- Hire captains
- Buy ships & supplies
- Organize Expedition
- Lack of food
- Fear of Indians
- Illness & death
- Agree to communal living
- Endure Hardship
- Establish Colony
- Establish trade with Indians
- Establish defenses & shelters
- Agree to communal living

Operation Desert Storm

- Joint Chiefs of Staff (U.S.)
- President of U.S.
- United Nations
- Assemble Allies
- Organize Armed Forces
- Endure Hardship
- Establish Foreign Bases
- Gather troops & supplies
- Set up Command structure
- Ship troops & equipment
- Troops leave family
- Extremes in weather
- Culture shock
- Set up command posts
- Erect housing
- Establish community services

Establishment of residences on foreign soil follows the same basic steps today as in the 1600s when Jamestown was established as an English Colony.

Content of this graphic was developed by Cindy Jackson, Tuscaloosa, AL.
Using Webs and Frames to depict cyclic relationships

Variations of Semantic Webs, as well as Frames, can be used to depict cyclic sequences. The Cyclic Sequence Web uses a web format to depict each major phase of a cycle. An advantage of using the web format is that multiple layers of information can be depicted for each phase of the cycle if needed.
Social Studies Example
You could use a Cycle graphic to clarify complex cyclic relationships

Peaceful resistance
is about...
Building support for your cause using peaceful resistance

Leaders target part of the problem
- Voting rights
- School integration

Peaceful action targeted at getting media attention
- Speeches
- Arrest = limp resistance
- Silent marches
- Peaceful sit-ins, singing

Media influence on public opinion
- TV --> world-wide attention
- Public's revulsion
- Sympathy for cause
- Politicians change laws

Negative reaction of a few
- Verbal abuse
- Fires (buses & houses)
- Cross burning
- Water cannon & Police beatings

What is important to understand about this?

Peaceful resistance is a very powerful way to cause changes;
Let enemies defeat themselves with their own violence