**Talking Drawings**

Graphic Organizer Attached

This pre-reading (and follow-up post-reading) strategy uses simple student

drawings as a bridge between background knowledge and new information that will be encountered in the text. Teachers often begin lessons by asking students to discuss what they already know about a topic. This strategy offers an interesting twist by asking students to make a drawing depicting what they already know about a topic.

1. Each student is given a piece of paper on which he or she is asked to draw a picture showing what is already known about the topic that is going to be studied. The drawing should be simple — a line drawing is fine — but should include as much detail as possible.

2. Students form small groups and share their drawings, discussing the similarities and differences among the drawings.

3. A whole-class follow-up discussion takes place in which student groups

discuss what they know about the topic and how they learned about it. The class then organizes their thoughts into a concept map. The teacher’s role is that of facilitator, with students taking the lead in the discussion.

4. Students are given a reading assignment.

5. After a discussion about the reading, ask student to modify their original

drawings or begin a new drawing based on what they have just learned. Students should be encouraged to add details reflecting the new information.

6. Students again form small groups to compare and contrast their first and second drawings, focusing on what changes they made and what they learned about the topic that lead them to the change. Encourage students to refer to the reading assignment to clarify ideas.

Talking Drawings Form

1. Close your eyes and think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Now, open your eyes and draw what you saw.

2. Read your selection\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Then draw a second picture to show what you learned.

3. In the space below, tell what you have changed about your before and after pictures.