



Ice Alaska

1

Introduce the Article and Key Vocabulary

Talk with students about what they will learn from the article. Introduce vocabulary to them using the descriptive teaching method.

Example: We will be talking about the Ice Alaska festival in Fairbanks, Alaska. The festival starts on Friday, February 14 and continues until the ice melts in the end of March. At the festival there are ice sculptures, an ice playground, ice slides, and other things to do with things made out of ice. The ice art pieces are made by artists who use tools to make their sculptures out of very clear ice. The sculptures are judged in the World Ice Art Championships (WAIC). Many artists from different countries compete. The sculptures are on display until they melt when the warmer temperatures come in the spring to Alaska. In Fairbanks, during the Summer, the Sun does not set for 70 days, and in the winter it is dark for most of the day because of the earth is on an axis.

2

Read the Article While you TAAP

As you read the article with students, remember to TAAP: **T**alk about it, **A**sk a question, **A**cknowledge via response, and **P**ropel the conversation or **P**redict! (View the TAAP resource on the AAC Language Lab to learn more about the TAAP strategy!)

Sample TAAP words/phrases:

Talk About It	Ask Questions	Acknowledge via Response	Propel the Conversation or Predict
artists sculptures ice winter Alaska	What will you learn? What do you think you will see if you attended Ice Alaska? What would you do there? How would you start to make an ice sculpture?	Good answer Nicely done Great comment Cool idea That's chill!	I think... I wonder... Let's see What else Tell me more



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3

Talk About What you Learned

Summarize the article with students and talk about what they learned. Ask open-ended questions to discuss what everyone thought, and to get them thinking about and reflecting about what they read.

Sample questions for discussion:

What did you learn today? What would you see if you went to the Ice Alaska festival? What would you do there? How fast do you think the ice slides go? What sculpture would you make out of ice or would like to see? How do the artists win a trophy in what categories? How many people work on these ice sculptures? How many blocks of ice do they use?

Discussion for Comprehension

4

After reading and summarizing the article with students, use descriptive testing to further discuss the students' understanding of the article. Pose questions in a way that allows the student to answer the question using any word on their device.

Sample Descriptive Testing Questions and responses:

Tell me about the Ice Alaska festival.	What do you think living in Alaska feels like?	What kind of sculptures would you like to see?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February when it is cold art made from ice things made from ice winter fun slide up north state cold weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> very cold in winter dark most time in winter day light most time in summer see trees, water and bears 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> almost anything castle or building cartoon characters famous people <favorite singing artist>