

Unit 2: The Forces of Wind and Water

WEEK 6 Day 2

Writing Explanation

Deconstruction and Revision: Verbs

Content Objective	I can contribute to revising the verbs in our class explanation. (W.2, W.2.2.a)
Language Objective	I can discuss the function of verbs in explanation. (SL.1.2)
Vocabulary	action verb: a verb that expresses action explanation: a genre of writing whose purpose is to explain a phenomenon in sequence present tense: happening now revise: to make changes to writing verb: a word that expresses a physical action, mental action, or state of being
Materials and Preparation	- jointly constructed explanation: phenomenon statement from Week 5, Day 5 and explanation steps from Week 6, Day 1 - Crashing Waves chart, from Week 5, Day 4
Opening 1 minute	<i>Today we will look at one important language feature of explanations: verbs.</i>
Deconstruction 13 minutes	Show the Crashing Waves chart. <i>Let's take a look at the verbs in explanations. First I am going to go through and underline the verbs. Remember, a verb is a word that expresses an action or a state of being.</i> Think aloud while reading and underlining the verbs in the chart. See the following example.

	Crashing Waves Waves <u>crash</u> against the shore, <u>changing</u> its shape. Strong ocean waves <u>crash</u> against the shore. Ocean water slowly <u>erodes</u> soft rock and <u>breaks</u> chunks off the bottom of the cliff. The waves <u>throw</u> the loose material back at the shore. Eventually, the cliffs <u>break</u> apart from the crashing. The waves <u>take</u> away pieces of the cliff and <u>bring</u> them to a new area. The eroded pieces from rocky cliffs <u>can become</u> a sandy beach not far away. <i>What do you notice about these verbs? Let me read them again.</i> Read just the verbs. Harvest the children’s ideas. [The verbs are action verbs, except for “can become,” and are written in present tense.] <i>Verbs in explanations are different from those in procedures. Remember, procedure verbs are imperative and give directions. In explanations, verbs are actions in the present tense.</i>
Revision 15 minutes	<i>Now let’s reread our explanation, focusing on the verbs. I am going to read each sentence slowly. When you hear the verb, raise your hand.</i> Read each sentence and underline the verb. Use the following questions to discuss whether the verbs meet the requirements of explanation, and to

