



National Association for Sport and Physical Education

*an association of the American Alliance for Health,
Physical Education, Recreation and Dance*

NASPE Sets the Standard

1900 Association Drive
Reston, VA 20191

Phone: 703-476-3410

Fax: 703-476-8316

Email: naspe@aahperd.org

TEACHER MATERIAL

ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN – DAY 1

Student Activity: What Words Describe Your Physical Education Experience?

Materials: Students: Paper and Pencil
Teachers: Internet (www.wordle.net), Computer, Projector

Objective: After brainstorming with the class, students will be able to develop a list of words that describe what physical education looks and feels like. The students will also be able to participate in a class discussion about the Wordle that was developed by the group.

Instructions: A Wordle is a combination of a vocabulary list and a frequency count. Once the words are entered into a freeware website, an image is created based upon how often students used the same word. For example, if several students in the class wrote down the word fun to describe their physical education experience, the teacher would enter the word into the website as many times as students used this word. The words used most often appear in a larger size and bolder font than all the other words listed.

To begin, ask each student to brainstorm some words that describe how he or she feels during physical education class. Prompt them by saying, “what things come to mind when I say physical education?”

Once you have started the students thinking about the topic, have the students begin to brainstorm on their own and create a list with three to five words that they believe symbolize what physical education means to them. This part of the activity should take about 3 – 5 minutes.

Once each student has generated a list, you will collect the responses, then go to www.wordle.net and enter the student list of words into the web-based software. It is important that you type in each list, even if the word is repeated. Once the data entry is complete a Wordle image is created that can be used for discussion about physical education.

Discussion. Once the Wordle image has appeared, begin by showing the students all of the fun shapes and designs that their words have made.

Begin to discuss why some words show up in a different size than other words. What does this tell us about physical education? Are there similarities and differences between different classes?

Lead a discussion and begin prompting the students to talk about why their class believes physical education is important to them.

Teachers, please summarize the classroom discussion around the Wordle the students created into a short essay (500 words or less). Submit your classroom essay to www.pe2020.org to share the thoughts of your students with others. By visiting the website, you will also have the opportunity to read what other students think about physical education. Compare the responses.