



# How does it work?

Emergent/Early/Fluent

**Skills Toolkit:** Generating ideas, words, sentences

**Knowledge Toolkit:** Practising writing explanations

## Materials

- Mini-whiteboards/paper/writing books/tablets or laptops
- Images in the photo bank on the CD-Rom

## Procedure

1. Project a picture of an object or show the actual object. Alternatively, show a short clip of the object in operation.
2. Discuss in pairs or small groups how this object works. Write notes or scribe a sentence on the board to scaffold the activity.
3. The students write a short explanation of how the object works.

Here are some ideas for objects:

- scissors
- stapler
- key
- bike
- bow and arrow
- door knob
- pencil sharpener
- can opener
- bottle opener
- egg beater
- see-saw
- spray bottle
- knife
- clothes peg
- wheelbarrow
- Lego brick.

## Variations

- Emergent writers could complete this Quick Write orally and the teacher could scribe.
- Draw and label the object to establish a bank of precise vocabulary.
- Draw a diagram, and label it to show how the object works.
- Write a script for an advertisement to sell the object, pretending it is a new invention.
- Complete this Quick Write orally. Students could pretend they are describing how the object works to a visitor from outer space.

