

## RESOURCE 2.1 Identifying Key Uses of Academic Language in Content Standards and Language Standards



As you plan for your classes and map out the standards to address, use this tool to attend to academic language use illustrated by the key uses.

Teacher Team: Grade 4 Science Team

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

UNITS	STANDARDS	DISCUSS	ARGUE	RECOUNT	EXPLAIN
Fossils	Content 4-ESS1-1 Earth's Place in the Universe Identify evidence from patterns in rock formations and fossils in rock layers to support an explanation for changes in a landscape over time.	X			X
	Language WIDA-Grade 4-ELD Standard 4 Example Topic: Earth History/Materials	X			X
Animals	4-LS1-2 From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes Use a model to describe that animals receive different types of information through their senses, process the information in their brain, and respond to the information in different ways.			X	X

As you see in Resource 2.1, you will soon notice that most units cover all key uses. In these cases, some decisions need to be made as to which is the primary key use. A suggestion is that once key uses of language have been identified for each unit in the school, you review their distribution; then, make choices to ensure there is a balance across all your units.

### *Take the DARE*

In instructional teams or professional learning communities, create an aligned system for planning language instruction. Here are some ideas to begin the process:

1. Create a cross-disciplinary team to conduct the alignment process, including content area teachers, language specialists, special education teachers, literacy coaches, learning coordinators, and other experts in curriculum and instruction.