Sample Shared Writing after Vocabulary Introduction

Our class did a science experiment. We mixed sand, salt, water, counters, and paper clips. The question was, how could we separate the paper clips, salt, sand, water and counters using a magnet, a tub, jar, coffee filter, a rubber band, aluminum foil and a cup?

We planned how to answer the question in groups on whiteboards. We decided to separate the counters first by using our hands, which worked. Next, we used the magnet to get out the paper clips. Later, we searched in the sand *mixture* to check for any more counters or paper clips. Then, our class put the coffee filter on the jar and used the rubber band to make it stay. We scooped up the sand, salt, and water mixture with the cup and poured it on the coffee filter. The filter drained the water and salt *solution* and left the sand behind. We poured some of the salt and water *solution* onto the aluminum foil and laid it next to the window and placed the sand, counters, and paperclips in separate piles.

After a few days we noticed that the water *solvent* had disappeared and all that was left was the salt on the aluminum foil. We now had separated the sand, counters, paper clips, salt, and water.

The reason the salt and water passed through the coffee filter is because the salt is a *solute* and dissolved in the water which is a *solvent*. Salt has more *solubility* than any of the other items in the *mixture*. When the salt and water mixed together the salt dissolved in the water, creating a salt-water *solution*.