

CSAAPT Spring 2023 Semi-Virtual Meeting



Chesapeake Section of the
American Association of Physics Teachers
Spring 2023 Semi-Virtual Meeting
April 1, 2023 @ [JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY](#).

Contribution ID: 5

Type: **talk (15-minute)**

Teaching Students How to Explain Big Ideas with Simpler Words

Saturday, April 1, 2023 2:00 PM (15 minutes)

Special science language plays a big part in our lives. We often do not notice how confusing our language can be until either you or someone else just doesn't understand the words being used. The reason for this talk is to show you one way of teaching science-word-using to students in a fun and easy to remember way.

The idea for this talk came from the book *Thing Explainer*, by Randall Munroe. This talk will step through the steps of writing a student-led *Thing Explainer*, from choosing ideas to reading science papers to drawing pictures to choosing words other people can understand. We will cover good things and bad things that go along with the *Thing Explainer* and enjoy pieces of student work.

Munroe, R. (2015). *Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

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Session Classification: Afternoon Session 1A