THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE...
(Description Cards for Activity 2.2)

SAMPLE CLUSTER A: VOLCANOES
Facilitators instructed their 4th – 6th grade students in how to build paper mâché volcanoes and provided them with the necessary materials. Students spent 6 weeks creating their volcanoes, working primarily on construction and painting their finished products. On the last day, parents attended and watched as the students added red food coloring to vinegar that they placed in a cup in the cones of their volcanoes. One by one student then placed baking soda into the mixture of vinegar and food coloring and “exploded” their volcanoes.

SAMPLE CLUSTER B: TO BE OR NOT ... POETRY
Students and facilitators decided to study forms and poetry and create a publication of original work that they would distribute to classrooms, libraries, coffee shops, and waiting rooms at local doctor and dentist offices. They also decided to hold a contest for best cover design to their publication. Further discussion and brainstorming led to the implementation of a poetry reading night. To set up the poetry reading night, they contacted the Actor’s Guild cluster and asked if any members would be interested in performing an interpretive reading of the selections. They also decided to contact the Young Artists’ cluster to solicit some expressive artwork for publication and display. The culmination of this cluster was a community poetry reading held at a local business where copies of the publication were distributed. Both local radio and television media covered the event, which has now become an annual event.

SAMPLE CLUSTER C: CHOCOLATE, HOW SWEET IT IS
The facilitator, a self admitted chocoholic, worked with students to teach them all about where chocolate comes from, how it is made, differences in production and quality, the uses of chocolate, what is known about chocolate scientifically, and the history of chocolate. Students were involved in tasting and making creations using chocolate. For a final product, they organized a chocolate tasting seminar for others in the school and handed out brochures with the essential facts about chocolate that they learned in the cluster.