

Reading comprehension strategies

[Profession](#), [Teacher](#)



Teaching Reading National Reading Panel Reading Comprehension

Strategies Strategies that can help improve text comprehension. Monitoring

Comprehension To understand what you are reading, one must learn how to

be aware of understanding what you are reading. Teaching metacognition

strategies help students learn ways to understand what they are reading

before, during, and after reading required information. Before reading,

students need to understand the purpose for reading. They also need to

review what they will be reading. During reading, students need to monitor

what they do understand and what they do not understand to fix any

problems they might have in understanding what they are reading. After

reading, they will need to have graphic organizers to help them check

understanding of what they have read. Before Reading: - Predict what the

text will be about - Connecting reading to background knowledge - Set

purpose of reading by creating sensory images During Reading: - Asking

questions - Drawing inferences - Determining what's important - Synthesizing

ideas - Solving problems After Reading: - Summarize - Evaluate the ideas -

Make applications Using Graphic and Semantic Organizers Graphic

organizers allow students to visualize important concepts from required

reading materials in the classroom. When students are assigned reading

from a teacher, there should be an understanding of why they are reading

what is assigned. With so much information, especially in expository text

material, there needs to be a focus on what the teacher wants the students

to learn. Graphic organizers enable teachers to help students focus on text

structure as they read. Another important reason for giving students graphic

organizers is that it enables students to visualize connections between the

relationships within a text. With the graphic organizer, students are able to clarify what they are supposed to be learning. Also graphic organizers help students write well-organized summaries of a text. Semantic organizers are graphic organizers that organize information from a text in a spider web format. Using these formats to teach students information gives teachers a visual representation of what they want students to learn allowing students to see what they need to learn. Graphic organizers help teachers teach and students learn. Students Answering and Generating Questions During this strategy, teachers must understand how to get students to want to answer and ask questions to help them focus on what the teacher wants them to learn. When questioning techniques are done properly, it motivates all students in a classroom to want to learn the lesson that the teacher has assigned. Questions are not only important to students but questioning students and having students ask questions is also extremely important to the teacher to be able to check for understanding and provide feedback.

Recognizing Text Structure Students are taught to use the structure of a story to help them recall important story content. Summarizing Students are taught how to put the main ideas of a text into their own words. Cooperative Learning Teaching students to learn the above strategies together.

Methods for teaching comprehension strategies - Direct explanation should be used by teachers to inform students what type of comprehension strategy to use, why the strategy will help them understand what they are reading, and in what situation to apply the strategy. - Modeling is used by the teacher to show students how to use a particular strategy by modeling their thinking process while reading the text with the class. - Guided Practice should be

used by teachers to encourage student inquiry and help students learn how and when to apply a strategy while they are learning how to comprehend better ways of understanding what they are reading. - Application allows students to practice strategies while the teacher helps them until they can apply strategies independently. These methods help to keep students engaged in what they are learning. - Cooperative learning enables students to get together in-groups, each with students of different levels of ability, to learn comprehension strategies together. Students are expected to learn strategies and help each other learn the strategies while the teacher demonstrates the strategies to be learned. - Reciprocal teaching is used while student and teacher work together to understand literature and informational texts. This multiple strategy instruction enables students to learn how to incorporate several strategies to help them understand what they are reading. The four strategies that are used in reciprocal teaching is asking questions, summarizing, clarifying misunderstandings, and predicting.

References National Reading Panel (2003). Put Reading First: The Research Building Blocks for Teaching Children to Read, Comprehension Strategies. Retrieved May 26, 2006, at: <http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/publications/Cierra.pdf>