



Literacy Concepts Quick Tip Sheet

Visualizing/Asking Questions

Visualizing - Forming a picture in your head as you read. Encourage children to form images in their minds of what they are reading. Strong readers “see” scenes as they read.

Asking Questions - Prompt children to question why the text unfolds as it does: why something happened, why the author included certain details, why it is important to understand a character’s background, and so forth.

Activating Prior Knowledge/Setting a Purpose for Reading

Activating Prior Knowledge - Reader’s knowledge of something new is always built on the foundation of something they already know. Asking what they already know about the subject is a good place to start.

Setting a Purpose for Reading - Gives children a reason to read the book. Children must understand *why* we are reading a book for something to be meaningful.

Monitoring Comprehension

Monitoring Comprehension - Children recognize when they do not understand the reading material. Perhaps they don’t know the vocabulary, lack background knowledge, or are not concentrating. Students should frequently ask themselves, “Does this make sense?” If not, a good reader will stop and try to figure out what information is missing and how to find it.

Summarizing and Reflecting

Summarizing and Reflecting - Restating (summarizing in your own words) what the book was about (what we learned) and applying it to your own life (reflecting).

Group Discussion/Creativity

Group Discussion - Sharing with others how the book affected you, asking questions about puzzling parts, giving opinions about the subject.

Creativity - How else can we reinforce the things we learned in the book? What are the strengths and interests of the staff? How can the kids get involved in coming up with projects and activities.

