

Questioning Strategies

Objective

Students will enhance comprehension of oral and written language.

Materials

- Texts (one for modeling and one for student practice)
- Check Your Understanding handout

Overview

Explicitly model the activity and provide multiple opportunities for practice.

Activity

1. Model how to use the questions on the Check Your Understanding handout before, during, and after reading an example text. As you model, “think aloud” as you stop to answer the questions and monitor your understanding.
2. Have students use the handout while reading a text. Provide feedback and assistance.

Adapted from Vaughn Gross Center for Reading and Language Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. (2009). *Teacher reading academies*. Austin, TX: Author.

Check Your Understanding

Good readers ask themselves questions to check their understanding of texts. These questions can be asked before, during, and after reading.

Before Reading

- What do I think this story or book is about? Why?
- What do I already know about _____?

During Reading

- Can I picture in my mind what is happening? What does it look like?
- Has this ever happened to me? What did I do?
- Are there any words in the story that I don't know?
- What will happen next? Why?
- Do I have any questions?

After Reading

- What did I think would happen? Was I right? How do I know?
- Who or what is the story about? Where does the story take place?
- What happens to _____? Why?
- How does the story end?
- What surprised me?
- What have I learned?
- What is the most important thing that happened?
- Is there any part of the story that I didn't understand?