



Reading Comprehension Strategies

Ask a Question: Good readers ask questions before, during and after reading to clarify meaning, make predictions, and focus their attention to what's important.

Tips:

What do you think will happen?

I wonder why...

What would have happened if...

Make a Connection: Good readers notice pieces of the text that relate to or remind them of their lives, other books, past experiences...

Tips:

That reminds me of...

This made me think of...

I read another book that...

Create Mental Images: Good readers note places where they get a clear picture in their mind that may help them to better understand the text.

Tips:

I can picture...

I can hear/taste/smell the...

Infer: Good readers use what they already know and what is written in the book to make predictions, answer questions, draw conclusions and create interpretations that deepen their understanding of the text.

Tips:

I think the character feels...

Why did the character...

Use Background Knowledge: Good readers use their prior knowledge before, during and after reading to enhance their understanding of what they're reading. Help your child think about the title and pictures before he or she reads and use what they know to make predictions.

Tips:

I already know...

I know this author...

Determine Important Ideas or Themes: Good readers identify key ideas or themes as they read.

Tips:

I think the author wants me to learn...

Synthesizing Information: Good readers track their thinking as it develops during reading to get the overall meaning. They use what they have read to create their own ideas and think of ways they can use the new information.

Use Fix Up Strategies: Good readers are aware of when they understand and when they don't. If they have trouble understanding specific words, phrases, or longer passages, they use a wide range of problem solving strategies including skipping ahead, rereading, asking questions, using a dictionary and reading the passage aloud.