

Unlocking Reading Comprehension

Strategies for Educators



So, What's the Story?

Comprehending Narrative Texts in the Early Years

Use the checklist below to support you in applying what you learned about teaching young readers how to effectively comprehend narrative texts.

To support young readers in effectively comprehending narrative texts, I will...

- Design lessons that engage students' prior knowledge by incorporating the ABCDs of background knowledge:
 - **A**ctivate/retrieve student schema.
 - **B**uild world and text knowledge.
 - **C**orrect misconceptions.
 - **D**evelop/elaborate schema.
- Incorporate a close reading strategy to enhance comprehension through a structured sequence.
 - First, read the text to determine what the text says.
Constructing main idea and details of the story
 - Second, read the text to determine how the text works.
Organizing text ideas around the story's structure
 - Third, read the text to analyze what the text means.
Integrating the text with background knowledge
- Explicitly teach evidence-based comprehension strategies, such as:
 1. Monitoring comprehension
 2. Answering questions
 3. Generating questions
 4. Mapping story structure
 5. Utilizing graphic organizers
 6. Summarizing
- Instruct students to use the elements of story structure to summarize key components of narrative text.