

Read Smart: Comprehension Success for Grades 4-6

Introduction

Reading comprehension is foundational skill for students. It is the ability to understand and make sense of written text. Reading comprehension is essential for success in school and in life. Students who are good at reading comprehension are better able to learn new information, solve problems, and make informed decisions.

This book is designed to provide intermediate reading comprehension instruction for students in grades 4-6. It is a flexible, high-interest program that can be used with all regular and special education students. The book provides over 45 factual stories with related teaching materials, 15 at each level. Each story is

followed by a variety of comprehension questions and activities. The activities are designed to help students develop the skills they need to become successful readers.

The first chapter of the book provides an overview of reading comprehension and the different types of comprehension skills. The remaining chapters focus on specific comprehension skills, such as:

- Previewing
- Making predictions
- Inferencing
- Monitoring comprehension
- Summarizing

The book also includes two chapters on differentiated instruction and reading in content areas. The chapter on differentiated instruction provides tips and strategies for meeting the needs of all learners. The chapter on reading in content areas provides information on how to help students read and

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understand different types of texts, such as expository texts, science texts, and social studies texts.

This book is a valuable resource for teachers and parents who want to help students improve their reading comprehension skills. The book is easy to use and can be adapted to meet the needs of individual students. It is a great way to help students become successful readers.

Book Description

Read Smart: Comprehension Success for Grades 4-6 is a flexible, high-interest reading comprehension program that can be used with all regular and special education students. This book provides over 45 factual stories with related teaching materials, 15 at each level. Each story is followed by a variety of comprehension questions and activities. The activities are designed to help students develop the skills they need to become successful readers.

This book is designed to provide explicit and systematic instruction in reading comprehension. The lessons are sequenced to build on students' prior knowledge and skills. The activities are varied and engaging, and they provide students with multiple opportunities to practice and apply their comprehension skills.

This book is a valuable resource for teachers and parents who want to help students improve their

reading comprehension skills. The book is easy to use and can be adapted to meet the needs of individual students. It is a great way to help students become successful readers.

Features

- Over 45 factual stories with related teaching materials
- 15 stories at each level
- A variety of comprehension questions and activities
- Explicit and systematic instruction in reading comprehension
- Lessons sequenced to build on students' prior knowledge and skills
- Varied and engaging activities
- Multiple opportunities to practice and apply comprehension skills

Benefits

- Improved reading comprehension skills
- Increased reading fluency
- Enhanced vocabulary development
- Greater confidence in reading
- A love of reading

Chapter 1: Reading Strategies

1. Previewing

Previewing is a reading strategy that involves looking over a text before reading it in detail. It helps readers to get a general idea of the text and to activate their prior knowledge. Previewing can be done in a variety of ways, including:

- **Skimming:** This involves reading the first and last sentences of each paragraph, as well as the first and last sentences of the text.
- **Scanning:** This involves looking for specific information in a text, such as a particular word or phrase.
- **Using text features:** This involves looking at the text features of a text, such as the headings, subheadings, captions, and illustrations, to get a general idea of the text.

Previewing is a beneficial strategy for several reasons:

- It helps readers to get a better understanding of the text.
- It helps readers to focus their reading on the most important information.
- It can help readers to identify unfamiliar words or concepts.
- It can help readers to make predictions about the text.

Previewing is a simple strategy that can be used by readers of all ages and abilities. It is a valuable strategy for improving reading comprehension.

Tips for previewing

Here are some tips for previewing a text:

- Start by looking at the title and the author. This will give you a general idea of the topic of the text.

- Read the first and last sentences of each paragraph. This will help you to get a sense of the main ideas of the text.
- Pay attention to text features. Headings, subheadings, captions, and illustrations can provide valuable information about the text.
- Make predictions about the text. Based on your previewing, what do you think the text is about?

Once you have previewed a text, you are ready to read it in detail.

Chapter 1: Reading Strategies

2. Connecting to Prior Knowledge

Connecting to prior knowledge is an important reading comprehension strategy. It helps students to make sense of new information by relating it to what they already know. When students connect to prior knowledge, they are able to:

- Understand new information more easily
- Remember new information more effectively
- Apply new information to new situations

There are many different ways to help students connect to prior knowledge. Some of the most effective strategies include:

- **Activating prior knowledge.** This can be done through a variety of activities, such as brainstorming, webbing, or KWL charts.

- **Using graphic organizers.** Graphic organizers can help students to visualize and organize their prior knowledge.
- **Making connections.** Encourage students to make connections between new information and their prior knowledge.
- **Providing background information.** Sometimes, students need to be provided with background information in order to connect to prior knowledge.

Connecting to prior knowledge is an important reading comprehension strategy that can help students to learn more effectively. By using a variety of strategies, teachers can help students to make connections between new information and their prior knowledge.

Examples of Connecting to Prior Knowledge

Here are some examples of how to connect to prior knowledge in the classroom:

- **When teaching about the American Revolution, ask students to think about what they already know about the British colonies.**
- **When teaching about the solar system, ask students to draw a diagram of the solar system that they have learned about in previous grades.**
- **When teaching about the life cycle of a butterfly, ask students to share what they know about other insects.**

By connecting to prior knowledge, students are able to build on their existing knowledge and learn new information more effectively.

Chapter 1: Reading Strategies

3. Making Predictions

Predicting is an important reading strategy. It helps readers to understand what is going to happen in the text and to make connections between the text and their own experiences.

There are many different ways to make predictions. Readers can look at the title of the text, the pictures, or the headings to get an idea of what the text is about. They can also think about what they already know about the topic or what they have learned from previous experiences.

Once readers have made a prediction, they can use it to guide their reading. They can look for information in the text that supports their prediction or that contradicts it. They can also use their prediction to make inferences about what will happen later in the text.

Making predictions can help readers to engage with the text and to improve their comprehension. It can also make reading more enjoyable.

Here are some tips for making predictions:

- Look at the title of the text, the pictures, or the headings.
- Think about what you already know about the topic or what you have learned from previous experiences.
- Use your prior knowledge to make a prediction about what will happen in the text.
- As you read, look for information that supports your prediction or that contradicts it.
- Use your prediction to make inferences about what will happen later in the text.
- Discuss your predictions with other readers.

**This extract presents the opening
three sections of the first chapter.**

**Discover the complete 10 chapters and
50 sections by purchasing the book,
now available in various formats.**

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