

Comprehension

Directions:

Comprehension refers to the process of simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning. In other words, there are two challenges: Figuring out how print represents words (accurately and efficiently--extracting), at the same time formulating a representation of the information being presented (building new meaning and integrating new and old information--constructing meaning). (Snow & Sweet, 2003, p. 1.)

Before, During, and After reading cards can be used in whole group (place them in a pocket chart and pull some to discuss before reading, during reading, and after reading), small group such as guided reading (give one to each student and stop to have them answer before, during, and after reading), and cooperative learning (pair students up with a partner to discuss a couple of questions before, during, and after reading).

This resource can be used in whole group instruction, literacy stations, small group instruction, or for reading intervention.

What does the title and front cover tell me?

Is this book about a topic I already know?

What might happen in the story?

Before Card

What do the rest of the pictures tell me?

Can I tell what is happening?

Do I see a problem or solution?

Do I see some action or important thing happening?

Before Card

What type of text is this?

Fiction or nonfiction

What should I look for if it is fiction?

What should I look for if it is nonfiction?

Do I know which specific genre this is?

Before Card

What do I want to learn from this text?

The series of events?

The problem or solution?

Author's purpose for writing this?

Information about a topic?

Before Card

What is the text about so far?

People

Places

An event or incident

A story about a true event

Information on a specific topic

During Card

What do I think will happen next?

Are there any clues based on pictures?

Are there any clues based on events?

Does the author's language make me sense something will happen?

During Card

Why did the character do that?

Would I do the same if I were in the same situation?

Did the character have another choice?

Was their action/ decision right?

During Card

Can I identify some elements?

Plot?

Setting?

Problem/Solution?

Author's purpose for writing?

Information about a topic?

During Card

What was the problem/solution?

Fiction

Problem

How was problem resolved

What did I learn (nonfiction):

Topic

Main point

Supporting details

After Card

Why did _____ happen in the text?

The action or decision of a character?

A series of events?

A reaction?

A problem in the world?

A scientific or historical reason?

After Card

Why is this text important?

Information

Main idea or theme

Author's intention / purpose for writing

A moral / lesson learned

After Card

What connections can I make?

Is this text similar to anything in my life?

Is this text similar to anything in the world?

Is this text similar to another text I have read?

After Card