

Reading Comprehension Thinking Stems

Comprehension
You understand and can talk about what you read

Reading Stems

<p>Schema That reminds me...~ My connection is...~I have schema for...~I'm remembering...~I can relate to...~ I am thinking of...</p>	<p>Visualizing I'm picturing...~ My mental image is...~ I can smell/taste...~ I can imagine...~I can see/feel...~ I can touch/hear...</p>
<p>Questioning I wonder...~ Why...~ It confused me...~ What if...~ I don't understand...~ How could...</p>	<p>Synthesizing Now I understand why...~I'm beginning to think...~I used to think...~I'm changing my mind about...~My new thinking is...~but now I think...</p>
<p>Determining Importance What's important here...~What matters to me...~It's interesting that...I want to remember...~ One thing to notice is...</p>	<p>Inferring My guess is...~It could be that...~I predict...~Maybe...~This could mean...~ Perhaps...</p>

Comprehension Strategies At a Glance

Metacognition - Thinking about your thinking
Schema - Making connections using your prior knowledge
Inference - Schema + Evidence
Visualizing - Creating mental images
Questioning - Asking ??s before, during and after you read
Determining Importance - What matters the most in the text
Synthesizing - Changing your thinking as you read and putting it all together

Thinking Stems

Each week, you will be asked to reflect on the reading you are doing at school and at home. This reflection will not be a retelling or a "book report", but rather will be a more in-depth look at the thinking you are doing while you read. To guide you, this sheet includes many reading stems you can use to help you in your reflection. Your reflection should be written as a friendly letter to your teacher.

Sample Letter

September 20, 20xx

Dear Teacher,

This week I have been reading "Sideways Stories from Wayside School" by Louis Sachar. I wonder why some of the students are so mean to each other. We are always taught that you shouldn't call people names or be mean and the kids in this book can be really rude. They call each other stupid and ugly. I wonder how come Mrs. Jewls, the teacher, doesn't really do anything to them.

Mrs. Jewls is always writing students' names down under the word DISCIPLINE, in big letters, but it doesn't tell you what happens to the kids whose names get put there. I wish I knew because it would make the story better.

Sincerely,
Your Name