

Arlington Public Schools

Comprehension Strategies

Connecting -When children connect what they are reading to background knowledge (life, another text, world) it will help them stick to a story.

Picturing -The pictures we have in our mind as we are reading help us to remember the words we read, and help us respond emotionally to the author's message.

Wondering -Wondering keeps us reading. If we wonder what will happen on the next page, the next chapter, and at the end of the book, we're going to stick with the story until our questions are answered.

Guessing or Predicting -When we make predictions about what will happen next in the story, we naturally want to read carefully to find out if we're right-or wrong.

Noticing - Good noticing means keying-in to important verbal cues: words, sentences, and paragraphs that offer evidence of the text's meaning. Good readers also notice when they stop understanding the text.

Figuring Out - This moves a student's thinking beyond the construction of the basic meaning to a deeper understanding of the text. Figuring out is like filling in the blanks. You have made the appropriate connections, created great pictures in your mind, wondered, guessed, and noticed a lot of clues along the way and all of this information has helped you to figure out the author's meaning.