Reading Instruction Series

In the Reading Instruction Series, teachers demonstrate effective strategies in authentic classroom settings that target key components of reading development: phonemic awareness, alphabetic principles, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

About this Segment

When teachers use text features to guide comprehension, students are better able to navigate a text. Features such as headings, illustrations, glossaries, and the table of contents help provide a mental framework for identifying and remembering the main ideas and key details of a text.

Pre-Viewing Discussion Prompts

- What role do text features play in promoting reading comprehension?
- What strategies do you currently use to support student comprehension of various texts?

Post-Viewing Discussion Prompts

- How can you teach students to use text features as a road map in preparation for reading a text?
- How might you use graphic organizers or other visual representations to reinforce the purpose of text features and their role in comprehension?

Resources from School Improvement Network

2nd Grade: Using Text Features. Edivate. https://www.pd360.com/index.html - resources/videos/5496

4th Grade: Understanding Text Structure. Edivate. https://www.pd360.com/index.html - resources/videos/5378

Other Resources

National Reading Panel. (2000). Teaching children to read: An evidence-based assessment of the scientific research literature on reading and its implications for reading instruction. Retrieved February 6, 2015, from http://www.nichd.nih.gov/research/supported/Pages/nrp.aspx/

Reading Innovations. (n.d.). Text features. Retrieved February 10, 2015, from http://www.readinginnovations.com/Comprehension/TextFeatures.html

Kelley, M.J. & Clausen-Grace, N (n.d.) Guiding students through expository text with text feature walks. Retrieved February 10, 2015, from the Reading Rockets website: http://www.readingrockets.org/article/guiding-students-through-expository-text-text-feature-walks