



EIGHT STRATEGIES USED BY PROFICIENT READERS



Use these ideas when you talk to your children about books they are reading.

1. Proficient readers use existing knowledge to make sense of text.

- They refer to personal experience, activate prior knowledge of the content, style, structure, as well as the strategies or learning processes they are using.

2. Proficient readers make connections between new information and that which is known.

- They apply personal experience to text (“This reminds me of a personal experience...”), text to the world (“This reminds me of something in the world...”), and text to text connections (“This reminds me of something in another text...”).

3. Proficient readers ask questions about the text before, during, and after the reading.

- They wonder about content, concepts and outcomes, question the author, question the ideas and information, and design inquiry.



4. Proficient readers create images of the text in their minds.

- They generate pictures which include sensory details (sounds, textures, scents, movement, feelings), and imagine as they read.

5. Proficient readers draw inferences from the text before, during and after reading.

- They predict outcomes and events, identify messages, draw conclusions, surface and refine underlying themes.

6. Proficient readers determine what is important in text.

- They sift important ideas from rich details, choose what to remember, weigh evidence, set priorities, and isolate variables.

7. Proficient readers synthesize information to create new meaning before, during and after reading.

- They anticipate from textual clues and generate informed hypotheses; take stock of meaning while reading; use parts to see the whole; read for the ‘gist’; generate emerging understandings; merge what is known with new information to form a new idea, perspective or insight, revise and refine thinking.

8. Proficient readers monitor and repair comprehension throughout the reading process.

- They check and recheck understandings, stop and reread for clarification, read on to construct meaning, examine evidence, and use all of the above strategies to check and extend meaning.