

# Brief Focus Lesson

## Comprehension: Make a Picture or Mental Image for Grade 5

Text: *Meteor!* By Patricia Polacco

<b>CAFE Goal</b>	Comprehension
<b>CAFE Strategy</b>	Make a Picture or Mental Image
<b>Observe/Relate</b>  (1 – 2 min.)	<p>Have you ever wondered if it's better to read a book before you see a movie or vice versa? Some people prefer to read the book first and make their own mental images of the characters, places, and events. Then they can compare the movie in their minds with the one that filmmakers create. Readers never have to wait for someone to make a movie of their favorite books though. They can create movies in their minds as they read. By making pictures and mental images about what they read, they connect with the text in a very meaningful way. Since the movie is their own, they can put themselves right in the middle of the action. Whenever they want, they can watch that movie they have personally created in their minds—and they don't have to buy a movie ticket or wait in line to do it!</p>
<b>Teach and Reinforce</b>  (2 – 3 min.)	<p><b>Establish purpose</b>—Today we are learning to make a picture or mental image.</p> <p><b>Create urgency</b>—We are learning to make a picture or mental image because it helps us to understand the text better and to connect with it more fully.</p> <p><b>Explicit teacher modeling</b>—(<i>Before reading, lightly pencil in page numbers for easy referencing</i>). Now it is time to share part of the book <i>Meteor!</i> by Patricia Polacco with you. This text is the exciting true story of a star that fell to earth in the backyard of the author's grandparents. Before I begin, think about what you already know about meteors and make some mental pictures of them. Imagine how you might feel if something mysterious landed near where you live. As I read, I'll stop and explain how I make pictures in my mind.</p> <p><i>Read to page 7 and state, "Those farm animals are really upset, aren't they? In my mind, I can see how worried and afraid they feel. They are trying to sound an alarm with their honking, cackling, and bleating. I can imagine just how frightened they are! I would be scared, too." Continue reading the next page and note, "The family seems like they are spending a quiet evening at home; they don't realize what has happened outside." After page 11 exclaim, "Wow! I can see those dishes falling off the shelves</i></p>

	<p>as the house shakes. I've never seen a rug curl before, but the author's words help me to imagine exactly how it would look. With her words, Patricia Polacco has created such thrilling images that I can see them in my mind. They are part of my own personal movie based on <i>Meteor!</i>"</p>
<p><b>Practice</b> (2 – 3 min.)</p>	<p>You can see how easy it is to make a great movie in your mind using this book. I shared the pictures that are part of my mind movie. You can create your own mental pictures now. Listen as I share the next few pages (12-15). On a sticky note, jot down descriptions of some of the pictures you see in your mind as I read. When I signal, you can share your ideas with an elbow buddy. <i>(Students might focus on the BOOM that the meteor made, the glass that broke in the house, furniture that was knocked over, or the front door that was blown open. They might also describe the family nervously tiptoeing outside, or Grandpa and Uncle Steve putting rope around the area where the meteor fell in the yard).</i></p> <p><i>After students share their ideas, say, "You have described so many wonderful pictures based on the action in the story. Let's take a quick look at how Patricia Polacco illustrated those scenes. You can compare her drawings with the pictures that you created in your mind movie. Remember that the pictures in your mind might be similar or different. Readers make their own mental images."</i></p>
<p><b>Encourage and Plan</b> (1 – 2 min.)</p>	<p>Make a picture or mental image is sure to become one of your favorite reading strategies. It is so much fun to create pictures in our minds as we read. You can use this strategy when you listen to a teacher, family member, or classmate read aloud. After you listen to the text, you can compare your ideas with the pictures in the book. When you are reading a good-fit text, you can use the strategy independently. Who will use this strategy today?</p>
<p><b>Common Core Alignment</b></p>	<p>Most strategies are applicable to all grade levels. Make a Picture or Mental Image aligns with Standard RL. 5.7 on our <a href="#">Grade 5 CAFÉ menu</a> or <a href="#">CCSS Grade Level Matrix</a></p>