



Ready Reference Form

Goal: Comprehension		Strategy: Monitor and Fix Up	
Definition	Readers stop and think if what they are reading makes sense, whether they understand what is happening in the story, or what the selection is about. If meaning breaks down, the reader has strategies to go back and fix it.		
Why Children Need This Strategy	Readers who monitor their own reading know and use specific strategies when meaning breaks down, and fix their reading to enhance their comprehension.		
Secret to Success	Readers must think while they are reading, constantly asking themselves, "Does this make sense?" If they don't know what is happening, they fix up their reading by using specific strategies.		
How We Teach It	<p>We model for students the language we use to monitor our meaning. It may sound like this:</p> <p>"Part of what I just read doesn't make sense. I am going to stop and ask myself some questions to see if I can figure it out. For example, 'Who is this story about? What is happening in this story? What is the author trying to tell me?' Asking these questions causes me to stop and think about what I am reading.</p> <p>"If after I have monitored or thought about what I was reading I am still lost or can't figure it out, I either reread the selection and try a fix-up strategy or I read on and try stopping again later in the passage. If it still doesn't make sense after the second attempt, I will have to ask someone for clarification or choose a book that is more appropriate to my level."</p> <p>Some fix-up strategies readers use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize text. Go back and adjust the rate at which we read. Reread the text while thinking carefully. Read on to see whether the information becomes clear. Skim and scan the selection to gain meaning. Ask for help. 		
Troubleshooting	One way to help students with this strategy is to ask them to create a list of their favorite fix-up strategies they use when meaning breaks down. Once this list is made, it is easy to call students' attention to these strategies during individual conferences to remind them that they have the knowledge to fix up their reading. Through the conference we can check in and coach them to use the strategies until they become a habit.		