

Focus Lesson

Skip the Word, Then Come Back

Text: *A Chair for My Mother* by: Vera B. Williams

CAFE Goal	Accuracy
CAFE Strategy	Skip the word, then come back.
Observe/Relate	<p>Last night, I was reading a great mystery. It was so exciting that I didn't want to stop. Since I am a voracious reader, (you know, someone who reads a lot), I was surprised that I didn't know the meaning of a word. So, I said to myself, "What can I do? I know—I'll skip the word and keep reading. Maybe the other words and sentences on the page will help me to figure it out!" By the time I got to the end of the page, I had figured it out. I felt really proud of myself. I was glad that I encountered a new word, too!</p>
Teach and Reinforce	<p>Establish purpose – Today we are going to learn about the accuracy strategy skip the word, then come back.</p> <p>Create urgency – Every once in a while, readers see new words that they don't know. This happens even if they are reading just right books. Readers need to know what to do when this happens. One of the best things that they can do is skip the word, continue reading, and then come back to it. As they continue reading, they can often use the clues from the sentence or following paragraphs to figure out the new word.</p> <p>Explicit Teacher Modeling – This book is titled <i>A Chair for My Mother</i> by Vera B. Williams. This is a story about a girl and her family who save money for a very special chair. As I read this story, I am going to skip the word, then come back.</p> <p><i>Read page 15 when the family sees a fire. (Please note that the pages are unnumbered, so it might be helpful for you to pencil in the page numbers. For easy reference, begin with the title page as page 1).</i></p> <p>I am going to stop here and practice the accuracy strategy skip the word, then come back. Listen as I read an exciting part of the story.</p> <p>"Right outside our house stood two big fire <i>en—en</i>—wait—I don't know that word. I will skip the word and then come back. "I could see lots of smoke. Tall orange flames came out of the roof." Oh, I think I know the word now. The author is describing a fire with lots of smoke. I bet that word is <i>engines</i>. I'll check by looking at the picture on the page—yes, I was right. I see fire engines on page 14.</p>

<p>Practice</p>	<p>Now you will try the strategy skip the word, then come back.</p> <p>Let's look at another sentence that has a difficult word. (Write this sentence from page 25 on chart paper or on the whiteboard or chalkboard.)</p> <p>We shopped through four furniture stores.</p> <p>If you know the meaning of the underlined word, don't say it out loud. Let's talk about how we could figure out the meaning of this word if we did not know it. What can we do? Yes, that's right. We can skip the word and continue reading. I notice that the word stores comes after the unknown word, so I think that word must describe a place where you can buy certain kinds of things. The underlined word starts with the letters f-u-r. Let's look at the next sentence on page 25 for more clues:</p> <p>"We tried out big chairs and smaller ones, high chairs and low chairs, soft chairs and harder ones."</p> <p>How does the sentence help you to understand the meaning of the underlined word? (Students should mention that the underlined word must be some kinds of stores that sell many different kinds of chairs. They should use this context clue "stores" along with the beginning letters f-u-r and the following sentence to figure out that the underlined word is furniture.</p>
<p>Encourage and Plan</p>	<p>We just practiced skip the word, then come back. This is a strategy that lets you use your wonderful brain to figure out the meaning of a new word. When you are doing your independent reading today, be on the lookout for a word you don't know. Instead of finding in the dictionary or asking a friend about the word's meaning, try to figure it out yourself. For help, look at the words and sentences that come after it. Write the sentence with the unknown word on a sticky note. Underline the new word. When you share today, you'll have the chance to tell how you figured out the meaning of this new word.</p>
<p>Common Core Alignment</p>	<p>Ask questions throughout the reading process meets the Common Core State Standard for many grade levels. This lesson could be revised to match your grade-level expectations. Find the standard that aligns with your grade-level on our CAFE Menu/ CCSS Grade Level Matrix.</p>