

Comprehension

I understand what I read

Check for Understanding

Discuss who are you reading about and what is happening in the story.

Are you finding you understand what you are reading?
What do you do if you don't remember?

Back up and re-read

Ask did what you read make sense?
What does a reader do when the text doesn't make sense?

Monitor and Fix-up

Readers must think while they read, constantly asking themselves, "Does this make sense?" If not they need to stop and ask themselves questions such as: "Who is the story about?" "What is happening in this story?" "What is the author trying to tell me?"

Other fix-up strategies include: summarize the text, go back and adjust the rate at which you read, reread the text while thinking carefully, read on to see whether the information becomes clear, skim and scan the selection to gain meaning or ask for help.

Retell the story

Talk about the events and sequence of the story by using words such as first, next, then, last and finally.

Make a picture or mental image

"What do you see in your mind as you read a selection?"
Think I will take the information I am reading and make it into a movie. Pretend you are at the theatre and watching the story. Can you see yourself in this selection?

Ask questions throughout the reading process

"What does this mean?"
"Is this important?"
"How do you think this story will end?"
"What was the authors purpose for writing this selection?"
"What did I learn?"
"Do I need to read this again?"

Predict what will happen and use text to confirm

"What do you think will happen based on the information you know?"
"What clues are you using to confirm your prediction?"
"What kind of clues did you use? Pictures, words or background knowledge?"

Accuracy

I can read the words

Cross-checking

Does it look like? Does it sound right? Does it make sense?

Blend sounds, stretch and re-read

Say each letter as you stretch them out, then put them together and say it fast.

Flip the sounds

What other sounds could that letter make?
Did the word you just read sound right?
When you flip sound, listen for a word that you recognize.

Chunk letters and sounds together

Look for:

- prefixes (un, dis, pre, etc.)
- suffixes (able, tion, less, etc.)
- blends (br, fl, sp, etc.)
- endings (ed, ing, s, es, er)
- blends (th, wh, sh, ch)

Skip the word and then come back

Skip unknown word, read to the end of the sentence and then go back and reread attempting to make a prediction about the unknown word by:

- using first letter or letters
- using context clues

Trade a word/guess a word that makes sense

Can I substitute a word that begins with the same letter and makes sense?
Try using the skip the word and then come back strategies.

Fluency

I can read accurately, with expression and understand what I read

Read appropriate-level texts that are a good fit
Use the acronym **IPICK**:

I - I pick a book

P - Purpose: What is my purpose for choosing this book?

I - Interest: Am I interested in this book?

C - Comprehend - Do I understand what I just read?

K - Know - Do I know most of the words?

Reread text

What selection did you practice reading again to improve your fluency?

Practice daily. It only takes 5 to 8 minutes of reading each day, with the same selection to hear the improvement with fluency.

Adjust and apply different reading rates

Using the analogy of a car with 4 gears:

- first gear, or slowest, most powerful gear, to memorize materials
- second gear to learn materials
- third gear for most of our reading
- fourth gear, our quickest speed, for skimming and scanning

Ask: "What gear will you be able to read this selection?" The goal is to most often be reading in third gear.

Expand Vocabulary

I know, find and use interesting words

Use word parts to determine meaning

Look for:

- prefixes (un, dis, pre, etc.)
- suffixes (able, tion, less, etc.)
- origins
- abbreviations

Ask: "Do I know any part of this word and what it means?"

Ask someone to define a word for you

Ask: "What is the word?" Guess what it may mean.
Ask another person what the word means.

Try that meaning in your selection. "Does it make sense?"

Tune into interesting words and use new vocabulary when speaking

Look for and identify a new vocabulary or interesting words.
Try using new or interesting vocabulary in your daily speaking.

Use dictionaries or thesauruses as a tool

Use a dictionary to look up and define words.
Use a thesaurus to trade a word.

