



The RITES FACTS

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THE COMPONENTS OF READING COMPREHENSION

Reading For Meaning

Reading comprehension is a multicomponent, complex process that involves many interactions between the reader and what s/he brings to the text (previous knowledge, strategy use), as well as variables related to the text itself (interest in the text, understanding of the types of texts).

While many middle school, high school, college students – and even adults - have learned to read, some will struggle with **reading for meaning**; and, as with learning to read, these students need explicit strategies to use during the process of reading in order to support them with gaining, using and remembering information from their texts. Strong readers use strategies that work for them and can identify which strategy to use for different types of texts. Those struggling with reading can improve their reading comprehension skills by being taught strategies, as well as when and how to use them with different types of texts. Below is a sampling of the many comprehension strategies that can be directly taught to help students improve their range of comprehension skills:

- Discovering Main Idea
- Identifying Detail
- Sequencing Events
- Using Context
- Getting Facts
- Drawing Conclusions/Predicting Outcomes
- Distinguishing Between Fact and Opinion
- Understanding Cause and Effect
- Identifying Figurative Language
- Identifying Bias and Prejudice
- Using Prior Knowledge
- Comparing and Contrasting Ideas
- Generating and Answering Questions
- Identifying Inferences
- Summarizing Concepts
- Understanding Vocabulary
- Visualizing Ideas
- Determining Author's Purpose
- Understanding Point of View

It is never too late to address reading problems. When a student's reading issue(s) can be identified down to these specific details, an effective program can be designed to improve these skills.