Powerful Strategies for Comprehension

Highlighting is an important strategy that assists learners in identifying the main idea and supporting details of a text.

Highlighting Tips:

- Read the paragraph or section first, then go back and highlight.
- Highlight key words or phrases, not full sentences.
- Highlight the main idea in one color and the supporting details in another color.

Comprehending the text can often be difficult for students. The following are powerful strategies to assist students with comprehension.

Reading Strategies:

- Reread: Rereading the text helps to clarify understanding.
- Activate Prior Knowledge: Before reading, students should look at the title and ask themselves what they already know about the topic.
- Context Clues: Determine the meaning of unknown words by looking at the surrounding text.
- Visualize: For comprehending the text, good readers make a picture of what they are reading.
- Ask Questions: During reading, students should ask themselves questions about the text.
- Look at the captions and bold print.
- How do the illustrations add to the meaning of the story?



Yvonne J. Pettiford Educator and Author