

Comprehension Activity Introduce: Sequencing

Activity Type: Introduce

Grade: K-3

Group Size: Small Group, Large Group, Whole Class

Length: 15 minutes

Materials: A fiction book to read out loud, chart paper or board

Goal: Given a work of fiction, students will be able to determine the correct sequence of events that happen in it.

Prepare:

Choose a book that appeals to early readers.

Model/Instruct:

1. Show students a book (front cover, back cover, and a quick flip through the pages) and ask them to predict what the book could be about.

Today we are going to read a book entitled _____ . What do you think this book is about? What do you think we will learn from this book?

2. Record the students' comments on the chart paper or board.

3. Explain the meaning of sequencing.

Today, we are going to study the sequence of events in this book. The sequence of events means the order in which things happen. Every fiction book has a sequence. Every story has something that happens first, next, and last. This is the sequence of events. After you have finished reading a book, you should be able to tell the sequence of major events.

4. Give examples of the ways students have already used sequencing strategies.

When you tell a story, how do you decide what to tell first? Have you ever put information in order so that it makes more sense? Have you ever been confused by something that was out of order?

5. Read the book, pausing at appropriate places to identify major events.

Practice:

6. Finish reading the book.

Let's make a list of the major events in this story. What happened at the beginning? What happened in the middle? What happened at the end?

7. Record students' comments on the chart paper or board.

8. Go through each event on the list and make sure that the events are in the correct order.

Adjust:

For advanced students:

Encourage these students to use the list of events to retell the story. Hold a discussion about how paying attention to the sequence of events help in retelling the story.

For struggling students:

Some students may be confused about the order of events. Allow these students to look at a copy of the book while you go over the list to make sure the events are in the correct order. Having visual representations of events in the story will help students put them in the correct order.

For ELL students:

Before reading the book, explain the meaning of any key vocabulary or concepts. Allow these students to draw brief sketches of what happened at the beginning, middle, and end so they can share their knowledge visually rather than orally.

This lesson is shared by <http://www.freereading.net>

FreeReading is a high-quality, open-source, free reading intervention program addressing literacy development for grades K-3. Schools and teachers everywhere can use the complete, research-based 40 week program for K-1 students, or use the library of lessons to supplement existing curricula in phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension and writing. The site is also filled with free, downloadable materials including flashcards, graphical organizers, illustrated readers, decodable texts, audio files, videos and more.