Hands-on Comprehension Strategies
For Students with Low Incidence Disabilities
Today’s Presenter

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Agenda

1. Importance of Reading for Everyone

2. Evidence-based Strategies
Reading is Thinking

Tanny McGregor

“The changing of a vague difficulty into a specific, concrete form is a very essential element in thinking.”

J.P. Morgan financier
Why Do We Read?

Information

Entertainment

Survival

Personal Enhancement
The Real Purpose of Reading

Meaning!

Meaning!

Meaning!
Reading is for Everyone

- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Autism
- Medically Fragile
Challenges

Wide range of abilities

Lack of joint attention

Some are verbal; others are not

Easily distracted
Some Common Strengths

Highly visual
Sensory
Routine Oriented
Concrete
Research-Based Strategies

Used in teaching all types of skills can be used in teaching reading comprehension:

- Errorless Teaching
- Manipulatives
- Mastery Learning
- Multisensory Teaching
- Assistive Technology
- Positive Reinforcement
- Symbol Supported Text
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
Assistive Technology
Assistive Technology

Assistive technology (often abbreviated as AT) is any item, piece of equipment, software or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

AT can be low tech like communication boards made of cardboard or fuzzy felt.
AT can be high tech such as special purpose computers.
AT can be hardware such as prosthetics, attachment devices (mounting systems), and positioning devices.
AT can be computer hardware, like special switches, keyboards, and pointing devices.
AT can be computer software such as screen-readers or communication software.
AT can be inclusive or specialized learning materials and curriculum aids.
AT can be specialized curricular software.
AT can be much more, including electronic devices, wheel chairs, walkers, braces, educational software, power lifts, pencil holders, eye-gaze, and head trackers.

Different disabilities require different assistive technologies.

Assistive technology includes products and services to help people who have difficulty speaking, typing, writing, remembering, pointing, seeing, hearing, learning, walking, etc.
Symbol-Supported Text

Ask to Play

Sometimes my friends are playing a game without me.

I want to play too but I shouldn’t just go and start playing.

I can walk over and ask, “Can I play too?” I need to wait for them to answer.

If they say yes - I say “thanks” and start playing. If they say no - I say “no problem, maybe next time.”

My friends are happy when I ask if I can play. We can have fun!
Symbol-Supported Text

Several different symbol libraries exist

Symbols are placed above or below words to help support meaning

Offers access to text for nonreaders
Use of Symbol-Supported Text

Research supports symbols for communication purposes.

But there is debate regarding symbol-supported text for literacy:
- not for learning how to read
- provides access to information for comprehension and retention
Comprehension
What do I do Pre-Reading?

What do I do During Reading?

What do I do After Reading?
Pre-Reading Strategy

Picture Walk
During Reading
During Reading Strategy

STOP!!!
Get the Picture!
Get the Picture!

Promote visualization, a strategy we know proficient readers use constantly while reading

Facilitates summarization
During Reading Strategy

Neurological Impress

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xh0Gj6i8f8s
Post Reading
Post Reading Strategy

Summarization

Who, What, But, So
Post Reading Strategy

Sequencing Story Lines

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEWitdYB6_Y
Resources

- Errorless Teaching
  TEXAS GUIDE FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHING ERRORLESS LEARNING

- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
  http://www.udlcenter.org/aboutudl/udlgu idelines

- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
  National Center on Universal Design for Learning
  http://www.udlcenter.org/aboutudl
Resources

- Think Alouds

- Think Aloud Checklist
  http://www.readingrockets.org/content/pdfs/thinkaloud_checklist.pdf

- Reading Comprehension Strategies
  https://www.cville.k12.in.us/Cville/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Zw_U43MP3P8=
Resources

- **Picture Walk**

- **Multisensory Vocabulary Activities**

Resources

• **Who, What, But, So**

• **Sequencing / Retelling - Storylines**
  [http://www.readingrockets.org/strategies/story_sequence](http://www.readingrockets.org/strategies/story_sequence)

[https://www.pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=Story%20retelling](https://www.pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=Story%20retelling)
Tools

• Text Compactor
  http://www.textcompactor.com/

• Readability
  https://www.readability.com/
Questions?
More Information?

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