

Reading Strategies Webquest

Adapted from Webquests by Deanna Peete and Sarah Harris

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INTRODUCTION

As a classroom teacher you are always looking for ways to help students be more successful in reading. With the large diversity in your classroom it is difficult to find the right balance for every student when it comes to teaching reading. At the beginning of the year you are ready to try new strategies and techniques for reading. As the year goes on, it becomes more difficult to find the time to look for new and creative ideas to implement into your reading block. This is the time when many teachers go back to the traditional practices that are not as successful with all students.

The purpose of this WebQuest is to gain more knowledge about reading practices that improve comprehension and fluency for all students. You will gain more information on specific strategies to use to teach reading. This WebQuest is also designed to be used throughout the school year as a resource for teaching reading.

TASK

To help students become better readers through strategic reading, you need to develop an understanding of various reading strategies. To develop an understanding of reading strategies and how they work, your task is to research the following sites to determine which strategies will be the most effective for your students.

You will be working with a team of teachers at your grade level. It is your job to review the background reading. When you finish your background reading go to the websites listed under your area of interest to learn about reading strategies. Your group will answer the following questions:

1. Which three strategies did you find most valuable to teach your grade level/subject area? Why?
2. How will you implement these strategies into your lessons?

3. How will you implement these strategies in your classroom?

Background Knowledge on Reading Comprehension

Begin by researching the following websites to gain background knowledge about teaching reading. Use the questions listed below the websites to guide you as you begin to learn more about reading instruction. Take notes, along with answering the questions below, as you explore each site. Share your findings with your group members.

American Federation of Teachers

<http://aft.org/edissues/rocketscience.htm>

This website includes an article about what teachers should know and be able to do when teaching reading.

Northwest Reading Educational Laboratory

www.nwrel.org/comm/topics/read.html

Go to this site and look at the articles under the Northwest Report. Focus on looking at the Report on Reading Stresses Complexity of Process. Also view the School Improvement links.

Reading Pathfinder

www.readingpath.org/audience/teacher.html

This site has a wealth of articles and ideas for teaching reading in the primary grades.

Questions to answer and consider as you view the websites:

What does current research say about how teachers should teach reading?

What knowledge must teachers have to successfully teach students reading?

How are new teachers being trained to teach reading in inclusive schools?

What are the "core understandings" about learning to read?

Which of these practices are you already using in your classroom?

What information about reading comprehension is new to you?

Reading Resources

[Fluency Information](#)

Includes information on paired reading, echo reading, and reader's theater

[Literature Circles](#)

Includes directions for starting literature circles in your classroom

[Literature Circle Models](#)

[Reciprocal Teaching](#)

[Think Alouds](#)

[QAR](#)

[Anticipation Guides](#)

PROCESS

Print out a copy of the [worksheet](#) below. Each member of the team will evaluate the strategies listed on the worksheet based upon the information learned at the above web sites. As you are evaluating keep in mind the three questions you must answer under the **TASK** section. To make it easier for you to evaluate the sites, each of you will act as one of the following:

<p><u>The Clock-Watcher</u> You are concerned about getting through your curriculum by the end of the year. What strategies will help you meet that goal? Time is of the essence to you.</p>	<p><u>Cooperative Grouper</u> You like your students working together in small groups. What strategies will help your students work together to reinforce content understanding?</p>	<p><u>The Cognition</u> You want your students to understand key content concepts better. What strategies will you use to help your readers comprehend and develop higher order thinking skills?</p>
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Strategy Evaluation Worksheet

Strategy Reviewed	Weaknesses	Strengths
Reader's Theater		
Repeated Reading		
Paired, Echo, and Choral Reading		
Literature Circles		
Reciprocal Teaching		
Think Alouds		
QAR		
Anticipation Guides		

EVALUATION

1. List three strategies that you would use in your grade/ content area. Describe how these strategies meet the needs of your learners and curriculum goals.

Strategy Chosen	How Strategy Meets Learner Needs	How Strategy Meets Curriculum Goals

2. Give a brief explanation of how you will use one of the above strategies in a lesson in your content or grade area.
