

Story Structure

Use these prompts to help students understand foundational information.

- What is the title of this text? Who is the author?
- Is this book fiction or nonfiction? How do you know?
- What is the genre of this story? How do you know?
- Who is telling the story?
- Who are the main/secondary characters? Why are they important to the story?
- Could the characters exist in real life?
- Where/when does the story take place? How do you know?
- How does the story begin/end?
- In order, what are the major events in the story?
- What is the problem/conflict in this story? How is it resolved?

Author's Purpose

Use these to help students understand the story from the author's perspective.

- Why did the author write this story/passage/book?
- Was the author trying to persuade, inform, or entertain you?
- What message did the author want you to get?
- Why did the author choose that setting?
- Was _____ a good title for the story? Why or why not?
- What did the author do to help you visualize the story?

Summarizing Prompts

Use these to help students understand the most important parts of the story.

- What is the main idea/gist of the story?
- Tell me what happened in the story.
- What were the most important parts of the story?
- What was the turning point of the story?
- What do you think the author wants you to know after reading?

Guided Reading

Prompts

for Fictional Text



that Help Build Understanding
During Small Group
Instruction

Making Predictions

Before reading, use these prompts help students think about what they are reading before they begin.

- Think about the title/genre/author/pictures/setting. What do you think the story/book will be about? What makes you think that?
- What challenges do you think the characters might face?
- What clues from the text helped you make your prediction?
- What information from your own life helped you make your prediction?
- How do you think the story might end? Why do you think that?
- Were your predictions right? How do you know?
- Do you want to change your prediction know that you have read the story?

Self-Monitoring Prompts

Use these prompts to help students realize when they are reading incorrectly or not understanding the story.

- Does that word/sentence/paragraph sound right?
- Does that word/sentence/paragraph make sense?
- Look at the picture. Does it fit with what you just read?
- How does what you just read fit with you know?
- What do you need to do to help you understand the text?
- Do you need to go back to reread?
- Do you want to read on to see if it makes sense?
- What would make sense there?
- Why did you stop reading?
- What did you notice? (after student stops or pauses while reading)
- What part of the story confused you?
- Were there parts of the story you didn't understand?
- What are you still wondering?
- What reading strategies did you use to help you understand?

Making Connections

Use these prompts to help students gain understanding by bridging their own experiences to the text.

- What does this paragraph/story/character remind you of?
- How does what you know about _____ (genre) help you understand this story?
- Have you read another story with similar characters/setting/ending?
- How did this story make you feel? What other books/events from your life have made you feel that way?
- What lessons did you learn that you can use in your own life?

Inferring Prompts

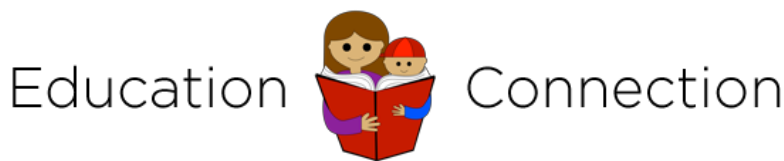
Use these prompts to help students move beyond the text to understand what the author is implying.

- What is the message/lesson of this story?
- What can you figure out that the author didn't put in words?
- What is the mood/tone of the story?
- Why did the author choose that setting?
- How was the setting important to the story?
- Why do you think the character _____?
- How did the character feel when _____? How did you know that?
- What do the character's actions/choices tell you about him/her?
- When the character said _____ what did he/she really mean?

Asking Questions

Use these prompts to help students think about what they still want to know.

- What questions do you still have?
- What would you like to ask the author/one of the characters?
- What would you like to know more about?
- If you reread the book/story/passage what would you be trying to understand or figure out?



Humility + Consistency + Simplicity

Volunteer Confidentiality & Commitment Pledge

Thank you for volunteering with our Program and reading and/or mentoring in Greater Austin Area schools participating with us. You are providing a very valuable service to our Program. It is important to understand the following guidelines when working with students and school information:

- **Social Media**: Education Connection recognizes the importance of the Internet in shaping public thinking about our program. Education Connection also recognizes the importance of our volunteers joining in and helping shape literacy and community service conversation and direction through interaction in social media. Therefore, Education Connection is committed to supporting and following all ISD Privacy Policies related to social media. This includes the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html Consequently, email addresses provided to Education Connection for the purpose of communicating electronically are confidential and not subject to disclosure except as outlined by the Public Information Act (Section 552.137 of the Texas Government Code). These guidelines are to help volunteers open a respectful, knowledgeable interaction with people on the Internet. They also protect the privacy, confidentiality, and interests of Education Connection, as well as current and potential stakeholders. Volunteers may not share information that is confidential and proprietary about the company. This includes information about students, district staff and administration, and internal Education Connection documents (that are not shared on Education Connection website and blogging pages). If you have any question about whether information has been released publicly or doubts of any kind, speak with the Education Connection Executive Director before releasing information that could potentially harm Education Connection, or our current and potential stakeholders.
- **Confidentiality**: A feeling of mutual understanding and trust between school staff and volunteer is essential. Volunteers have access to information about students and their abilities, successes, and struggles as well as information from teachers. As a volunteer, your responsibility is to maintain confidentiality at all time. *Note: Texas law requires that you report any information a student might share with you regarding homicide, suicide, physical/emotional abuse, or any illegal activity. Department of Family and Protective Services: <https://www.dfps.state.tx.us> Hotline: 1-800-252-5400. Please be sure to report any concerns to the school principal.*
- **Commitment**: Please make a professional commitment. Be humble, consistent, and dependable. Please notify your students' teacher and Literacy Partner Coordinator if you are unable to come at your committed time.
- **Sign In and Out**: Remember to sign in and out at the front office and wear your Education Connection lanyard at all times. Your hours of service must be reported for monthly reporting requirements to aid the school and district.

If you have questions involving your volunteer work, please speak with your school assigned Literacy Partner Coordinator.

I have read the above Volunteer Confidentiality & Commitment Pledge and understand their importance. All information regarding students is considered confidential, and I will maintain confidentiality.

Volunteer Name: _____

Volunteer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

