Comprehension Task Cards

Remember Comprehension is only one of the five essential components. It must be taught with the other five areas to make a successful reading program. An adult should model comprehension strategies to younger learners.

Post-It

Readers can also use notetaking as a tool to identify questions that might be answered, important points they want to remember, or things in the text that created confusion.

Background knowledge

Help children build and relate to prior knowledge on different subjects. Stronger comprehenders use their background knowledge to identify or make connections among ideas in what they are reading (van den Broek & Kremer, 2000).

Question Marks

Give your child a question mark written on a paper. As you read a story let your child hold up the question mark when a question about the story pops in their mind.

Question Frames

Use some of these question frames to help your child think and question for themselves.

- How would you describe ______ in your own words?
- What does _____ mean?
- ♦ Why is _____ important?
- ♦ Why did ____?
- ♦ How did _____?

Draw a picture

After you read a story to children have them draw a picture of what they can remember about the story. Encourage your children to draw as many different details as possible.

Sequencing

Sequence events from the story using the words beginning, middle, and end. Start with sequencing simple everyday tasks and then moving into more difficult story plots.

Act it out

Use costumes or puppets and act out the events that happen in a story. Talk to your child about the different characters, what they did in the story, and how they might have felt during different times in the story.

Retell

Choose a story your child is very familiar with reading. Instead of reading the story to your child this time have your child retell you the favorite story.

Picture Predictions

Pick a story that has not been read yet by your child. Model for your child how to look at the details in the pictures of the cover to make a prediction. Have your child look at the details in the pictures on the rest of the pages and predict what is going to happen next in the story.