

Lesson: Interacts with the text after reading by formulating questions

Fourth Grade Objective: 2.023 enrichment

Lesson

1. Good readers ask themselves questions after reading to better understand and remember what they have read.
2. These types of questions are questions that can have more than one response. Good thinking questions are not ones that you can answer with a yes or no response or ones that have an answer “right there” in the text.
3. Good thinking questions asked after reading a NONFICTION text have several characteristics. A good thinking question may be one that asks a reader to clarify a particular part that may have been confusing. A good thinking question may also encourage a response that asks the reader to give a personal connection to the text. Finally, a good thinking question may be one in which the reader would have to think beyond what is given to answer the question.
4. Let’s practice asking good thinking questions after reading a NONFICTION article.
5. First you will need the article from the internet. Follow these steps:
 - Go to www.timeforkids.com
 - Click on Grades 4-6
 - Click on Past Issues
 - Click on March 28, 2008 issue
 - Select the cover story: “Forbidden Foods”
6. Read the article.
7. After I finished reading this article, I asked myself the following questions:
 - Does Eliza have to use the EpiPen injector everyday or just when she is eats something she is allergic to? (I asked this question to *clarify* a confusing part in the article. The article says “She carries an EpiPen injector that gives an emergency dose of medicine at all times.” That was confusing to me because it says *at all times*.)
 - How would you feel if you had allergies like Eliza? (I asked this question to help me make a personal connection to the text.)
 - If you bathe and wash your hands too frequently does that cause you to have more allergies or sicknesses? (I asked this question to think beyond what is given. The text only gives a little bit of information about this.)
8. Questions that are not good thinking questions are questions that can be answered with a one word response or whose answer can be found “right there” in the text. Look at the following questions as examples that are NOT good thinking questions:
 - What is Eliza allergic to? (the answer can be found “right there” in the text)
 - Do you think it is bad to use soaps and cleaners to fight germs? (you could answer this question with a one word response – yes or no)

Try these on your own!

1. Write down 3 of your own good thinking questions about this article. Try to ask questions that help you do the following:
 - clarify a particular part
 - make a personal connection
 - think beyond what is given

Check your questions using the following rubric:

Score	Characteristics of Questions
4	Questions include all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- clarify a particular part- make a personal connection- think beyond what is given
3	Questions include most of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- clarify a particular part- make a personal connection- think beyond what is given
2	Questions include some of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- clarify a particular part- make a personal connection- think beyond what is given
1	Questions not included or questions have a yes/no response or answers can be found “right there” in the text.

Try these on your own!

1. Read a nonfiction article of your choice. Then practice writing good thinking questions after you read the article. Use the rubric above to evaluate your questions. You may find this article in a magazine or on a website. Here are a few websites you may try:
 - www.newiseowl.com
 - www.scholasticnews.com
 - <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>
 - www.timeforkids.com