

**Explicit teaching and cued use of the R.I.D.E.R strategy improves the comprehension level of average readers in Year 3.**

PROCEDURE

**PRE TESTS**

Students in both the Control Group and Target Group were pre tested using TORCH and PROBE.

- TORCH test- “ Grasshoppers” Suitable for Year 3.
- PROBE test- “Puppy” 3.1 reading age 8 - 9

**LESSONS**

The Target group was then exposed to eight 40 – 45 minute lessons (2 per week). Each lesson focused on developing visualization skills.

1. *John Munro’s Visualising task.* The group was guided step by step to read the sentence, visualise what the sentences was saying and write what they imagined in their mind.
2. Investigating synonyms. “Burglar rings police for help.” The group was asked to read the article and visualise what was happening. They were then asked to use their mental picture to give suitable synonyms for some of the verbs in the text. (*First Steps: Reading Course Book – addressing current literacy challenges. Pg. 22*)
3. Introduction of the R.I.D.E.R strategy. The group was given a cue card (see appendix) to help remember the strategy. For this first time the group was asked to simply read a passage from Nim’s Island by Wendy Orr and

to use the descriptive language to draw a picture of what they visualized as they read. (*Reading Between the Lines 3 by Margaret Brownie and Merle Morgan Pg 36*)

4. Using the R.I.D.E.R strategy the group was asked to re read the passage from Nim's Island and to complete a teacher made cloze. This cloze focused on noun pronoun relationships, inferential comprehension and reorganisation of text.
5. 6. 7. Passages from "The Twits" by Roald Dahl. Each lesson asked the group to employ the R.I.D.E.R strategy as they read a selected passage from The Twits. Each lesson was followed up with a cloze activity focused on high order comprehension skills. (*"The Twits" by Roald Dahl : Mr Twit pgs. 2-5, Mrs. Twit pgs. 6-8, The Glass eye pgs. 9-11*)
8. Understanding Advertisements. The group was asked to read the advertisement using the R.I.D.E.R strategy. They were then asked to complete a question sheet.

*(Reading Between the Lines 3 by Margaret Brownie and Merle Morgan Pgs. 40 - 41)*

At the end of these eight lessons both the Control Group and the Target Group were post tested using TORCH and PROBE.

- TORCH test (seen)- " Grasshoppers" Suitable for Year 3.
- TORCH test (unseen)- " Donna Dingo"  
A very short piece but contains lots of factual information and is quite detailed. The questions are difficult.
- PROBE test- "Hippos" 3.2 reading age 8 - 9