Teaching Year 5 and 6 students, who have comprehension difficulties, visualizing strategies when reading, will improve their level of comprehension.

Teaching Sessions-Visualization

Session 1

Introduction of the Comprehension Strategy:

I am going to teach you something to help you remember what you read. It is called visualizing. Visualizing is creating a picture or image in your mind after reading a sentence or a group of sentences. After you have created a picture in your mind you need to tell me about what it looks like.

Visualization Activity:

Let’s think about what you did on the weekend. Choose one activity that you were part of, think about who you were with and what you were doing. Think about what this looked like and create a picture in your mind. Teacher chooses an activity and describes the image by saying “In my mind I see…….” Individual children are encouraged to describe their images.

Reading Activity

Teacher reads a sentence from “Having Fun”
- She creates a picture in her mind
- She describes the picture to the class
- Students read the sentence and draw the picture they have created in their mind
- Students work in smaller groups to describe their drawings to a partner, reminded to say “In my mind I see…………………. “
- Individual students share their images with the group.
- Children read the next key sentence with the teacher, they draw a picture of the image

Review

Teacher reminds children of what was done in the session—we read the sentence and made a picture in our minds of it, making a picture in our minds helps us to understand what the text is saying, this is called visualizing.
Session 2

Review

Review what was covered in lesson 1

What word did we talk about last lesson?
What does visualizing mean?
How does this help us?

Steps to Visualizing a Text

Teacher writes the steps to visualizing on the whiteboard

- Read the sentence
- Make a picture in your mind of what the sentence is saying-draw the picture
- Describe the picture

Reading Activity

The teacher re reads the sentences from lesson one and asks the children to describe the images they created in lesson 1.

Teacher reads the next paragraph from “Having Fun”
She asks the children make a picture of each sentence of the paragraph in their mind and then draw their picture.
Students to share their drawings with a partner.
Repeat for the last paragraph
Students to share and describe their drawings with the whole group

Review strategy

Session 3

Teacher revises the visualizing steps from last lesson

Introduction of the text “Saving Water”- Discussion about the topic of saving water.

Teacher reads the first few sentences and describes her image to the students, sentence by sentence

Students read the first paragraph and follow the steps from the first two sessions.
Children encouraged to say “In my mind I see…………” each time.

Review of the lesson
**Session 4**

Teacher to review the last 3 sessions

Teacher explains that during this lesson we are going to read a paragraph (2 or 3 sentence) and then visualize what the sentences are saying.


Read
Image
Describe
Evaluate
Read on

Each step is discussed with the group

Teacher introduces the text “**Flying With The Wind**”
Teacher reads the first 2 sentences and demonstrates the use of R.I. D.E.R. with the group. Emphasis is on evaluating to check for meaning.

Students to read 2 sentences and describe their image using the chart as a prompt.
Students describe the image by saying “In my mind I see………….”

Read on and share their images by drawing and discussing

Review R.I.D.E.R. steps and discuss how this helps to understand what they are reading.

**Session 5 and 6**

Review strategies from the last lesson with emphasis on R.I.D.E.R. chart.
Introduce smaller card for each individual child with R.I.D.E.R. steps.
Students read their R.I.D.E.R. cue card
Teacher introduces “**Tigers, the Big Cats**”
Teacher reads aloud 3 sentences and refers to cue cards while doing so.
Children reread each sentence and visualize the three sentences and describe in words.
The descriptions are then shared with the group.
Words such as “endangered” are discussed and synonyms suggested.
Lessons are reviewed
Sessions 7 -10

Texts used
“Hungry Crocodiles”
“Surviving The Storm”

Each lesson follows the following procedure:

- Review what children have learnt about visualization
- Review the R.I.D.E.R. strategy and when to use it
- Students to read aloud from the text
- Unknown words are identified and synonyms are suggested.
- Students to visualize each paragraph and describe in words using the chart.
- Students to share their images
- Lesson is reviewed