

EMPOWERING TEACHERS

Comprehension Instructional Routine: Answering Questions then Rereading the Text to Identify Details in Support of the Answers

Preparation/Materials: large teacher copy of the Alligator text, student copies of text for adaptations, large copy of the chart with reasons to reread, pencils, 3 cards for new vocabulary (reptile, bask, swamps), and a picture of an alligator



- *Italicized sentences are what the teacher does*
- **Bold type is what the teacher says**
- Regular type is what the student(s) say
- **Bullet (•) and bolded type are what the teacher and student(s) say in unison**
- Teacher or student slides finger under underlined letter(s) or word(s)



NOTE: For some students, it may help to write the questions on a piece of chart paper.

TEACHER EXPLAINS TASK

We are going to answer questions about a new text and then reread the text to identify details that support the answers.

TEACHER SETS UP TASK

When we read a text, it usually has a topic with several details. The topic is who or what the text is mostly about. A detail gives some information about the topic.

What is a detail?

- A detail gives some information about the topic.

When we answer questions about the text, we think about the topic and we use the details to answer the questions. Sometimes we have to reread to find all the details.

Display the teacher's copy of the text. Point to the vocabulary words as you define them.

I am going to read about 'Alligators'. Before I read, let's talk about several new vocabulary words in the text.

Say the word. Then have students say the word with you.

Reptile. Say reptile with me.

- reptile

A reptile is an animal that hatches from an egg and is cold-blooded. An alligator is a cold-blooded reptile; its temperature changes with the weather.

Bask. Say bask with me.

- bask

To bask means to lie in a warm place. Alligators like to bask in the sun.

Swamp. Say swamp with me.

- swamp

A swamp is land partly covered by shallow water and woody plants. Alligators like swamps where the water is shallow and full of plants and trees.

Now listen as I read about 'Alligators'. Point to the words as you read. *The numbers in the text will be in light gray as an easy reference to the teacher. Do not say the numbers when reading the text.*

Alligators

1 Florida has many alligators. **2** Alligators are the biggest reptiles in Florida. **3** They have a short, rounded snout or nose and four legs. **4** They can grow to thirteen feet.

1 Alligators like to live where it is warm. **2** When it is hot, they stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers, or swamps. **3** When it is cold, the alligators bask in the sun to get warm.

1 Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, and snakes. **2** They will also eat small animals and birds. **3** We chew our food into small pieces, but alligators often eat their food whole.

We are going to think about the information in the first paragraph. Listen as I read the first paragraph again.

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TEACHER MODELS TASK (continued)

1 Florida has many alligators. 2 Alligators are the biggest reptiles in Florida. 3 They have a short, rounded snout or nose and four legs. 4 They can grow to thirteen feet.

Now I'm going to answer some questions about this paragraph.

This is the first question. What did I learn about alligators and where they come from?

I learned that alligators are reptiles that live in Florida. Remember, reptiles are animals that hatch from an egg and has a body temperature that changes with the weather.

Do a think aloud.

I wonder if this answer is correct. It can be helpful to reread to find out if the answer is correct or if it is missing some information

What can we do if we are not sure the answer is correct or if it is missing some information?

- We can reread the paragraph.

I am going to reread the first paragraph aloud to check my answer.

1 Florida has many alligators. 2 Alligators are the biggest reptiles in Florida. 3 They have a short, rounded snout or nose and four legs. 4 They can grow to thirteen feet.

Yes, my answer is correct, but in my answer I did not mention that alligators are the biggest reptile. So I will add this missing information to my answer. Alligators are the biggest reptiles that live in Florida.

Here is another question.

How would I describe an alligator? Hmm...I don't remember how they described an alligator in the story.

I should reread when I don't remember all of the details.

What can we do when we don't remember all of the details?

- We can reread the paragraph.

Yes, sometimes we reread when we don't remember the details.

I am going to reread the first paragraph. *Reread it aloud.*

1 Florida has many alligators. 2 Alligators are the biggest reptiles in Florida. 3 They have a short, rounded snout or nose and four legs. 4 They can grow to thirteen feet.

Now I can answer the question about how I would describe an alligator.

Alligators have a short, rounded snout, four legs and can be thirteen feet long.

We just learned why it is important to reread. It helps us to include all the details when answering questions.

Display chart and reference it throughout the routine. Cover the 4th reason for rereading.

Look at my chart. These are the reasons why I would reread.

Important Reasons for Rereading when Answering Questions

1. Reread to make sure my answer is correct.
2. Reread to make sure information is not missing from my answer.
3. Reread if I can't remember all the details.

Point to each answer on the chart as you ask the following question.

What are the reasons for rereading when answering questions?

- Reread to make sure my answer is correct.
- Reread to make sure information is not missing from my answer.
- Reread if I can't remember all the details.

That's right. Let's remember these reasons when we answer the questions for the next paragraph.

TEACHER AND STUDENTS PRACTICE TASK TOGETHER

Remember, a detail is part of the information about the topic.

What is a detail?

- A detail is part of the information about the topic.

When we answer questions about the text, we think about the topic, and we use the details to answer the questions.

How do we use the details in a text?

- We use details to answer questions about the topic.

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TEACHER AND STUDENTS PRACTICE TASK TOGETHER (continued)

Sometimes we have to reread to find all the details. Rereading helps us to understand the text.

Listen as I read aloud the second part of the text about alligators.

- 1 Alligators like to live where it is warm. 2 When it is hot, they stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers, or swamps.
3 When it is cold, the alligators bask in the sun to get warm.

So, this means alligators lie in a warm place.

Do a think aloud.

Hmmm... I don't think I understand this part. When we do not understand everything, it is helpful to reread.

What do we do when we don't understand everything?

- We reread the paragraph.

Yes. Listen as I reread this part of the text to try and understand the details.

When rereading, have students choral read if level is appropriate.

- 1 Alligators like to live where it is warm. 2 When it is hot, they stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers, or swamps.
3 When it is cold, the alligators bask in the sun to get warm.

Here's a question.

What did we learn about where alligators live?

- They live where it is warm.

Yes, alligators live where it is warm.

Here is another question.

What does an alligator do when it gets too hot?

- They stay cool in water.

Do a think aloud.

I wonder if this answer is correct. We can reread to find out if the answer is correct or if it is missing some information.

What do we do to find out if the answer is correct or if it is missing some information?

- We reread the paragraph.

Let's reread the second part together to check our answer. *Reread the paragraph aloud.*

- 1 Alligators like to live where it is warm. 2 When it is hot, they stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers, or swamps.
3 When it is cold, the alligators bask in the sun to get warm.

Was our answer correct?

- Yes.

But we did not include all the information or details about how alligators stay cool.

Did we include all the information or details about how they stay cool?

- No.

That's right. We need to give more details about what an alligator does when it gets too hot. We found out that they stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers or swamps.

What does an alligator do when it gets too hot?

- They stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers or swamps.

Now we've included all the information in the answer.

At first, we had to reread to understand the text. Then we had to reread to help us remember all the details.

Point to the chart again. Uncover the 4th reason for rereading.

Look at our chart. We already have 3 reasons for rereading. Let's add a new reason that tells us to reread when we don't understand something.

What is another reason to reread?

- Reread when we don't understand.

Now there are 4 reasons why we would reread.

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TEACHER AND STUDENTS PRACTICE TASK TOGETHER (continued)

Important Reasons for Rereading when Answering Questions

1. Reread to make sure my answer is correct.
2. Reread to make sure information is not missing from my answer.
3. Reread if I can't remember.
4. Reread if I don't understand.

Point to each answer on the chart as you ask the following question.

What are the 4 reasons for rereading when answering questions?

1. Reread to make sure my answer is correct.
2. Reread to make sure information is not missing from my answer.
3. Reread if I can't remember.
4. Reread if I don't understand.

That's right. Remember these reasons when you answer the questions for the next paragraph.

STUDENTS PRACTICE TASK

Remember, a detail is part of the information about the topic.

What is a detail?

A detail is part of the information about the topic.

When we answer questions about the text, we think about the topic and use the details to answer questions.

How do we use the details about the text?

We use the details to answer questions.

Sometimes we have to reread to find all the details or to help us understand the text.

What do we need to do sometimes to find all the details?

We reread the paragraph.

Listen as I read the last part of the text about alligators.

1 Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, and snakes. 2 They will also eat small animals and birds. 3 We chew our food into small pieces, but alligators often eat their food whole.

This part tells us what alligators like to eat.

What do alligators like to eat?

Alligators eat fish, turtles, and snakes.

Do a think aloud.

I wonder if this answer is correct. Remember, we can reread to find out if the answer is correct or if it is missing some information.

What do we do to find out if the answer is correct or if it is missing some information?

We reread the paragraph.

Let's reread the last part. Listen for your answer.

Reread the paragraph aloud.

1 Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, and snakes. 2 They will also eat small animals and birds. 3 We chew our food into small pieces, but alligators often eat their food whole.

Are there more details that answer the question?

Yes.

But we did not include all the information or details about what alligators like to eat.

We know alligators like to eat fish, turtles, and snakes.

What else do alligators like to eat?

They like to eat small animals and birds.

That's right. This part of the text tells us the complete answer is: Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, snakes, small animals, and birds.

What is the complete answer?

Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, snakes, small animals, and birds.

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STUDENTS PRACTICE TASK (continued)

Here is another question.

How do alligators eat their food?

They eat their food whole.

I wonder if this answer is correct. Let's reread to find out if the answer is correct or if it is missing some information.

Why do we reread?

We reread to see if our answer is correct or if it is missing some information.

Let's reread the last part so you can check your answer.

Reread the paragraph aloud.

1 Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, and snakes. 2 They will also eat small animals and birds. 3 We chew our food into small pieces, but alligators often eat their food whole.

Was your answer correct and did it include all the details?

Yes.

That's right. Your answer is correct and it includes all the details.

Remember, we want to tell all the details when answering questions.

Let's review the 4 reasons why we would reread.

Point to each answer on the chart as you ask the following question.

Look at our chart. What are the 4 reasons to reread?

1. Reread to make sure my answer is correct.
2. Reread to make sure information is not missing from my answer.
3. Reread if I can't remember.
4. Reread if I don't understand.

That's right. Remember these reasons every time you answer questions about a text.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

When students consistently identify relevant details about the topic in the text, provide opportunities to practice individually or in pairs using other explicit passages.

SCAFFOLDING SUGGESTION FOR ERRORS

Verify that students are correctly identifying the relevant details. If students are experiencing difficulty with this concept, use an example of a detail in one sentence from a topic they have already studied (e.g., farm animals). If necessary during student practice, prompt students by giving them the response before you ask them to state it.

Adaptations using this Instructional Routine:

- Write the questions on a piece of chart paper so the students can refer to each one.
- Preteach other vocabulary words that may be difficult for the students to understand.
- Have students read with the teacher during the Teacher- Student Practice and Students Practice Task, if they are able to read it.
- Have students work in pairs using their own copy of the text. They take turns telling one detail from the text about alligators.
- Apply the strategies presented in this routine to other content areas. Remind students that the details from a text will help them to answer questions about a topic.

For further independent practice with narrative text sequencing, refer to the following Kindergarten and First Grade FCRR Student Center Activities at http://www.fcrr.org/Curriculum/pdf/GK-1/C_Final.pdf

- C.015
- C.016

Also refer to the following Second and Third Grade FCRR Student Center Activities at http://www.fcrr.org/Curriculum/pdf/G2-3/2-3Comp_2.pdf

- C.012
- C.013
- C.014

Alligators

- 1 Florida has many alligators. 2 Alligators are the biggest reptiles in Florida. 3 They have a short, rounded snout or nose and four legs. 4 They can grow to thirteen feet.
- 1 Alligators like to live where it is warm. 2 When it is hot, they stay cool by swimming in lakes, rivers, or swamps. 3 When it is cold, the alligators bask in the sun to get warm.
- 1 Alligators like to eat fish, turtles, and snakes. 2 They will also eat small animals and birds. 3 We chew our food into small pieces, but alligators often eat their food whole.

What are the reasons for reading when answering questions?

1. Reread to make sure my answer is correct.
2. Reread to make sure information is not missing from my answer.
3. Reread if I can't remember.
4. Reread if I don't understand.