Reading Strategies & Skills

Mini Anchor Charts

Includes 13 Mini Anchor Charts to help teach these reading skills and strategies:

- Plot Structure
- Main Idea
- Summary
- Theme
- Characterization
- Point of View
- Author’s Purpose
- Inference
- Cause & Effect
- Formulating Questions
- Making Predictions
- Fact & Opinion
- Making Connections

Great for Interactive Reading Journals!
Teacher Tips

• Give your students these mini anchor charts to glue in their reading journals to remember some of the different components of reading comprehension.

• I suggest making each student a copy and as you introduce each comprehension component, your students can add a mini anchor chart to their reading journal.

• Consider spending a few days discussing each comprehension component before introducing the next one.

• Encourage students to go back in their journals to reference the mini anchor charts if they are confused about the comprehension components and the role they play in their independent reading.
Plot Structure

Plot = what happens in a story.
Structure = the way the story is written
All stories tend to follow the same plot structure. This structure is sometimes known as a story mountain.

### Story Mountain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hook</th>
<th>The hook is the introduction. This is where the author will introduce the characters and setting of the story.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem</td>
<td>The problem or conflict is what the story will mostly be about. The author usually introduces the problem early in the story.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rising Action</td>
<td>The rising action are the 2-3 events that help the reader understand the problem or conflict going on in the story.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climax</td>
<td>The climax is the most exciting part of the story. It is usually the big event that you won’t forget.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falling Action</td>
<td>The falling action are the 1-2 events that happen after the climax. These events lead up to the solution of the problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>The resolution usually happens at the end. This is where the main problem or conflict gets solved.</td>
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</table>

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### Story Mountain

- **Hook**
- **Problem**
- **Rising Action**
- **Climax**
- **Falling Action**
- **Resolution**

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Main Idea

The Main Idea is what the entire text is mostly about. The details included in the text will connect back to the main idea.

You can:
• Write the main idea in 1-2 sentences.
• Write a main idea for an entire text, a paragraph, or a chapter.
• Write the main idea for non-fiction or fictional texts.

Main Idea: Ice cream is the best summer treat.

Supporting Detail:
- Ice cream is cold, and it refreshes you on a hot summer day.
- There are so many different types of ice cream, everyone can find a treat they enjoy.
- You can eat ice cream on a stick or in a cone, so it is a really easy treat to take with you on a busy summer day.

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Main idea:

Supporting Detail:

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Supporting Detail:
A summary is a shortened version of the story. It retells all the important parts of the story.

**A Summary:**
- is told in sequence
- can include the main idea, supporting details, and theme of the story
- can be written in 3-5 sentences

**To help write a summary think:**

| B | -Who are the characters?  
-What is the setting?  
-What is the problem? |
|---|---|
| M | -What events happen to the characters?  
-What is the climax of the story? |
| E | -How is the problem resolved?  
-How have the characters changed? |
Summary

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>End</td>
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**Theme**

The theme is the “BIG IDEA” or the lesson the author wants you to take away after reading the story.

To help you identify the theme you can ask yourself these questions after reading a story.

1. What was the problem or issue in the story?
2. What did the characters learn?
3. How did the characters feelings or actions change in the story?

Unlike the summary and main idea of a story, themes are general and could apply to multiple stories.

**Common Themes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friendship</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Jealousy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Love</td>
<td>Hard Work</td>
<td>Acceptance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overcoming Challenges</td>
<td>Courage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Loyalty</td>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>Team Work</td>
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Character Feelings & Traits
The characters you read about in stories have feelings and personality traits just like you.

VS.

Character Feelings
Character’s feelings are the emotions they have in response to a specific situation. They can change over time.

Character Traits
Character’s traits are the part of their personality that is consistent over time. Traits don’t change as quickly as feelings.

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My Mini Anchor Chart

Character Feelings & Traits
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Character Feelings vs. Character Traits

Character Feelings

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Point of View
The Point of View tells us who is telling the story.

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<tr>
<th>1st Person</th>
<th>2nd Person</th>
<th>3rd Person</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The story is told by one of the characters in the story.</td>
<td>The narrator will talk to the reader as if they are having a conversation.</td>
<td>The story is told by the narrator who is NOT a character in the story.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The narrator will refer to themselves as “I”.</td>
<td>The narrator will refer to the readers as “you”.</td>
<td>The narrator will refer to characters by name or with the words he, she, they.</td>
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3rd person can be:

- **Limited**: The narrator knows only the thoughts and feelings of one person.
- **Omniscient**: The narrator knows the thoughts and feelings of all the characters.
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3rd person can be:

- Limited
- Omniscient
## Author's Purpose

Author's Purpose is as easy as PIE.

Authors write for a variety of reasons. Their purpose for writing will have an impact on the genre they write.

| P  | The author wants to **persuade** you to do something or think a certain way.  
Examples: Commercials, Ads, Persuasive Letters |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I  | The author wants to give you **information**. They will share facts about a specific topic.  
Examples: Science books, Biographies, Timelines |
| E  | The author wants their writing to be **entertaining**. They want to keep you interested.  
Examples: Stories, Fantasy, Poetry |

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Authors don’t always tell their reader everything. They rely on the reader to use inferential thinking to understand everything going on in the story.

**Text Clues**

My heart started to race as I stared down at the broken pieces. “How will I be able to explain this when mom gets home” I thought to myself.

**Background Knowledge**

I think the character is a kid because they mentioned their mom. I also think the kid is nervous because that is what happens when your heart races.

**My Inference**

The kid accidentally broke something important to his mom and he is nervous about telling her when she gets home.
Inference

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Text Clues

My Background Knowledge

My Inference

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My Inference

The kid accidentally broke something important to his mom and he is nervous about telling her when she gets home.
Sometimes authors include cause and effect relationships in their stories.

The effect is what happened. The cause is what made it happen. They are connected.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Effect</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It is raining.</td>
<td>You bring your umbrella.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I woke up late.</td>
<td>I missed the bus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I didn’t study.</td>
<td>I got a bad grade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I ate too much candy.</td>
<td>I got a stomach ache.</td>
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Sometimes authors include cause and effect relationships in their stories.

**Cause**
- It is raining.
- I missed the bus.
- I didn't study.
- I got a stomach ache.

**Effect**
- It is raining.
- I missed the bus.
- I didn't study.
- I got a stomach ache.

The **effect** is what happened. The **cause** is what made it happen. They are connected.
Making Predictions

A prediction is a guess about what will happen next in the story. You can use pictures or text clues to help you make your predictions.

Here are some ways to start your predictions:

- I predict that...
- I think _____ will happen because....
- When I read _____, it makes me think _____ will happen.
- I bet the character will...
- I wonder if _____ will happen next.

When can I make a prediction?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When can I make a prediction?</th>
<th>Before Reading</th>
<th>Look at the title and the pictures to help you make predictions.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During Reading</td>
<td>Stop every few pages to make a prediction about what will happen next.</td>
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<td>After Reading</td>
<td>Think: Did I make accurate predictions? What clues helped me predict what would happen next?</td>
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Before Reading

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After Reading

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Formulating Questions

Strong readers will ask questions while they read. This helps them make connections, predictions, and understand what is going on in the story.

| Before       | • What will this story be about?  
                 | • Who are the main characters?   
                 | • What lesson might they learn?  |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| During       | • What are the characters feeling? 
                 | • Why are they acting like that?  
                 | • What will happen next?         |
| After        | • What were the most important parts of the story? 
                 | • Why did the author choose to write this story? 
                 | • What would happen in a sequel? |

Don't forget to look for the answers while you read!
**Formulating Questions**

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Don't forget to look for the answers while you read!
Making Connections

When you are reading, you naturally make connections. Readers can make different types of connections.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Text-to-Self      | It reminds me of something I did.  
• I can connect to the book because.... |
| Text-to-Text      | It reminds me of another book.  
• This story reminds me of another book because... |
| Text-to-World     | It reminds me of something in the world.  
• This story makes me think of_____ because... |
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Fact & Opinion

Many times, authors will include facts and opinions in their writing. It is important to know the difference between them.

<table>
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<th>Facts</th>
<th>vs</th>
<th>Opinions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A fact is a statement that can be proven to be true or false.</td>
<td>An opinion is a personal belief or feeling. An opinion can’t be proven.</td>
<td></td>
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Author’s include facts and opinions in their writing to help influence the reader.

Fact: Thanksgiving is in the month of November.
   Ask Yourself: Can this be proven?

Opinion: Thanksgiving is the best holiday.
   Ask Yourself: Could people disagree?
Fact & Opinion

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**Facts** vs **Opinions**

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**Fact:**

Ask Yourself: Can this be proven?

**Opinion:**

Ask Yourself: Could people disagree?
THANK YOU!

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Also check out more products at
Miss P’s Style
https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Miss-Ps-Style

Credits
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https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Sweet-Papers
http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Special-Adventures
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https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/The-Clever-Teacher