Teacher Guide to Online Activity: Strategies Together - Creating Stories

Summary:
For this activity, students are given an incomplete text. They need to type and draw to complete the missing parts of the text. To do so, learners must:

- actively use the comprehension strategies together to understand the rest of the text;
- use creativity and logical reasoning to complete the text with information that makes sense.

To view the standards this activity addresses, visit: http://reading.ecb.org/teacher/standards.html

Teaching Tips:
If students are using iPads, remind them they can use Siri (an iPad feature that will type student input into the text fields).

During this activity, students sometimes find it challenging to:
- Write information for the text boxes.
  - Students are sometimes unsure if they are completing the text correctly. Encourage them to use their creativity to write text that makes sense.
- Know that each line of missing information is a different text box.
  - Tell students they need to enter information in each text box. If they do not, they will not be able to continue the activity.

Before you start:
- Review the eight reading strategies included in the Into the Book series.
- Tell students they will see a text with some information missing. It is their job to use the reading strategies and their creativity to complete the text.
- Remind students that their story should not be identical to their peers’ stories. There is more than one “correct” answer for this task!

After you finish:
- Have students print or email you their work.
- In small groups, have students share their stories with their peers, comparing and contrasting the texts. Have students discuss:
  - Do their texts make sense?
  - What strategies did they use to complete the text?
  - How did they decide what to include in the text? What process did they use?
- Choose a short text, divide the class into small groups, and give each group a copy of the text and five sticky notes. Have students read the text together, then place a note wherever they used a reading comprehension strategy. Students should also record the strategy name, and how they used the strategy. Once complete, have students share their reading strategies with the rest of the class.

Third graders found this activity moderately challenging when compared to the other Into the Book online activities.
Screen-by-screen Preview:

First watch a short video tutorial on how to do the activity.

Then click:
- **Replay** to play the tutorial again
- **Watch Video** to watch a clip from *Into the Book* that reviews using the strategies together
- **Try It Yourself** to begin the activity

Next, choose a text. The text is missing the words and images.

Use the eyedropper to drip magic fluid on the text. Each drop (click) reveals a portion of the text. The drops will run out before the entire text is revealed.
- Each drop reveals a predetermined section of text such as a paragraph, caption or image
- Be strategic about which sections of the text to reveal. **Do you want leave the title and the ending blank so you can take the story in your own direction? Do you prefer to reveal every other paragraph and try to figure out what the author was saying? It is your choice!**

Draw any missing pictures and complete the story using clues on the page and creativity.

Remember to use the reading strategies. For example:
- **Use prior knowledge to write a caption.**
- **Visualize what the author means to draw illustrations.**
- **Use clues in the text to help infer what the missing pieces should be.**
Click **Done** to view the completed story.

Finally, click **Done with Story**.

After the activity, click:
- **Choose Another Text** to do the activity again
- **Email Your Story**
- **Print Your Story**
- **Listen to Using Strategies Together song**
- **Done With Activity** to return to the *Into the Book* homepage
- **Watch Video** to view the Strategies Together clip from the video