

Activity: Connection Stems

Purpose: To encourage reflection during reading; to provide a structure to make connections while reading.

1. After reading a text aloud, show students a sentence stem and think aloud about the process you use for completing the sentence stem. Use the text and personal experiences to explain your thinking.
2. As you read aloud, encourage the students to use the sentence stems to participate in the discussion.
3. Give students a complete set of connection stems. Have students read another short text with a partner and use the connection stems to facilitate their discussion.

That reminds me of...

I remember when...

I have a connection...

An experience I have had like that...

I felt like that character when...

If I were that character, I would...

*Source: McLaughlin, M. & Allen, M.B. (2000). *Guided Comprehension: a teaching model for grades 3-8*. Newark, Delaware: International Reading Association.