



Prior Knowledge

Activity: Prereading Activity

Purpose: To develop, add, delete or modify new insight to text. To activate prior knowledge.



1. Before reading a text selection, teacher facilitates a group discussion about the central concepts in the selected text.
2. Conversation starters:
 - “What comes to mind when you hear the word (or phrase) _____?”
 - What do you already know about the text?
 - What does this remind you of?
 - Based on your prior knowledge of _____, what questions come to mind?
 - What information might be in this text?
 - What do you know that will help you understand the text?
 - What is your schema for this text?
 - Do the words and pictures remind you of something else that you’ve read?
 - What do the pictures tell you about the text?
 - This text makes me think about...
3. Selected text is read.
4. Discuss with students how thinking about the topic before reading helped them understand the text. Discuss any misconceptions that the students may have had before reading the text.