

ReQuest

Purpose:

To encourage students to ask their own questions about material they are studying. This helps students establish a purpose for reading.

Procedure:

In this activity the students and teacher ask each other questions about the material as they read it. The teacher can model questions that stimulate interpretive or applied levels of thinking.

1. Both students and teacher read silently the same section of text, usually one or two paragraphs.
2. The teacher closes the book and is questioned by the students about the material. The teacher should tell the students that these questions should be ones that the teacher might ask.
3. Roles are reversed and the teacher questions the students.
4. The process is repeated until the students have gained enough information to make predictions about the rest of the reading. The teacher asks the students to make those predictions and give reasons for them.
5. The students finish reading the assignment and the teacher facilitates a follow-up discussion.

As a variation of this activity the class could be divided into teams. One team would ask another team questions.

Adapted from Content Area Reading: Literacy and Learning Across the Curriculum by Richard T. and Joanne L. Vacca