



Reflections in Reading

S.I.E.S.A., LLC

Topic: **Summarizing**
Newsletter

Summarizing

An important comprehension skill that students need to understand and be able to demonstrate is the **skill of summarizing**. Students can use summarizing skills in all content areas of reading. By using this important strategy, good readers can be successful in many other areas of comprehension.

To be successful with summarizing, students will need to identify important information from the assigned readings and provide proof of their understanding through the following examples.

Making Summary Statements

This is accomplished by stating in your own words the "main idea" of the paragraph just read. Students do this orally, at first, to gain confidence in their statements. After the teacher, or parent, has modeled the way to formulate a summary statement, then students can write their statement on a note card, sticky note, or journal entry. Summary statements can be made paragraph by paragraph, or page by page in the assigned reading.

Using Graphic Organizers

A graphic organizer helps the student organize details around a central theme. A graphic organizer can look like:

- **charts:** *making lists in columns or lines*
- **circles:** *each circle represents a different detail*
- **web:** *lines attach the circles to show the connection to the central theme*
- **rectangle boxes:**

central theme is placed at the top and details are listed in boxes below.

Making Outlines

Older students can use their text books to make outlines from the chapter headings. An outline will help the student pull just the important details from the text to be placed in an organized form. It is through this organized structure that the student begins to make the connections concerning the important events in the content of study.



Writing Short, Direct Notes

Students can use **sticky notes** to jot down important facts while they are reading and then gather the notes to organize their summary after the reading. Students can place the note directly onto the text to show where they found the information. If their selections are not important details, the teacher or parent can help the child determine the better choice from the material.



Tips for Reading Success

Summarizing is an important comprehension skill that students need to develop in second to third grades. This is a life-long strategy that will benefit all of their reading experiences.



Our Purpose

To provide busy parents and educators with practical ways to enhance students' achievement in reading and make powerful connections between school and home.

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