

# RECIPROCAL TEACHING

## **Making Predictions.**

Before you begin to read the selection, look at the main title, scan the pages to read the major headings, and look at any illustrations. Based on these clues, try to guess what the article or story is going to be about.

Now start reading the selection to see whether your first prediction was correct. Later, you can stop at several points during your reading in order to figure what will happen next based upon what has already happened. When you continue reading, you can find out how closely the content of the actual story or article fit your prediction.

## **Summarize Main ideas.**

Stop after each paragraph or major section of the passage. Construct one or two complete sentences that summarize only the **most important** idea(s) that appear in the section. (Good summary sentences include **key concepts or events** but leave out less important details!)

Write this summary (main idea) sentences down and continue reading.

## **Summarize Main ideas.**

Look at the ideas that you have summarized as you read the passage. For each main idea listed, write down at least one *question* that the main idea will answer. Good questions should include words like “**who**”, “**where**”, “**when**”, “**why**”, and “**what**”.

## **Clarifying.**

Sometimes in your reading you will run into words, phrases, or whole sentences that really don't make sense. Here are some ways that you can *clarify* the meaning of your reading before moving on:

### **Unknown words.**

If you come across a word whose meaning you do not know, read the sentences before and after it to see if they give you clues to the word's meaning. If the word is still unclear, look it up in a dictionary.

### **Unclear phrases or sentences.**

Reread the phrase or sentence carefully and try to understand it.

## **Visualizing.**

Create a mental picture of what the author is describing; you picture something in your head. As you read, try to imagine what the characters and settings described by the author look like, things that appear along the way, picture the actions and events in your “mind's eye.”