

The Comprehension Toolkit

Language and Lessons for Active Literacy *Lesson Title and Lesson Text List*

Cluster 1: Monitor Comprehension

<i>Lesson Number and Title</i>	<i>Lesson Text</i>
1 Follow Your Inner Conversation <i>Listen to the voice in your head and leave tracks of your thinking</i>	<i>How Many Days to America? A Thanksgiving Story</i> by Eve Bunting (Clarion Books, 1988)
2 Notice When You Lose Your Way <i>Monitor your inner voice to focus your thinking</i>	"Stealing Beauty" by Hannah Beech, <i>TIME Magazine</i> (October 27, 2003)
3 Read, Write, and Talk <i>Think your way through the text</i>	"UNICEF and You. A Focus on Girls' Education" <i>TFK Extra! Supplement to TIME for Kids</i> (Fall 2004) "Saving Their Native Language" by Martha Pickerill, <i>TIME for Kids</i> , News Scoop Edition (November 14, 2003) "Tigers Roar Back" by Laura C. Girardi, <i>TIME for Kids</i> , News Scoop Edition (December 13, 2002) "Testing, Testing" by Elizabeth Sirius, <i>TIME for Kids</i> , News Scoop Edition (January 25, 2002)

Cluster 2: Activate and Connect

4 Follow the Text Signposts <i>Use nonfiction features to guide learning</i>	<i>Lightning</i> by Stephen Kramer (Lerner Publishing Group, 1992)
5 Merge Your Thinking With New Learning <i>Read and think about new information</i>	<i>Lightning</i> by Stephen Kramer (Lerner Publishing Group, 1992)
6 Connect the New to the Known <i>Activate and build background knowledge</i>	"Summer of the Shark" by Laura C. Girardi, <i>TIME for Kids</i> , News Scoop Edition (September 14, 2001)

Cluster 3: Ask Questions

7 Question the Text <i>Learn to ask questions as you read</i>	<i>The Mary Celeste: An Unsolved Mystery from History</i> by Jane Yolen (Aladdin Paperbacks/Simon & Schuster, 2002)
8 Read to Discover Answers <i>Ask questions to gain information</i>	<i>First on the Moon</i> by Barbara Hehner (Hyperion/Madison Press, 1999)
9 Ask Questions to Expand Thinking <i>Wonder about the text to understand big ideas</i>	<i>The Story of Ruby Bridges</i> by Robert Coles (Scholastic, 1995)

Cluster 4: Infer Meaning

10 Infer the Meaning of Unfamiliar Words <i>Use context clues to unpack vocabulary</i>	"Titanic" by Sean Price, <i>Kids Discover</i> (April, 2001)
11 Infer With Text Clues <i>Draw conclusions from text evidence</i>	"Titanic" by Sean Price, <i>Kids Discover</i> (April, 2001) <i>Titanic Past and Present, Part Three</i> by Edward S. Kamuda, The Titanic Historical Society <i>Titanic Replica Tickets from RMS Titanic</i>
12 Tackle the Meaning of Language <i>Infer beyond the literal meaning</i>	"Moon" and "Secrets" by Myra Cohn Livingston, <i>Space Songs</i> (Holiday House, 1988)

- 13 Crack Open Features**
Infer the meaning of subheads and titles

“Mexico”
by Kevin Supples, *National Geographic Reading Expeditions* (2002)

“Understanding Electricity”
by Stephen M. Tomecek, *National Geographic Reading Expeditions* (2002)

- 14 Read With a Question in Mind**
Infer to answer your questions

The Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest
by Steve Jenkins (Houghton Mifflin Company, 1999)

- 15 Wrap Your Mind Around the Big Ideas**
Use text evidence to infer themes

Cheyenne Again, by Eve Bunting (Clarion Books, 1995)

Cluster 5: Determine Importance

- 16 Spotlight New Thinking**
Learn to use a Facts/Questions/Responses chart

“At Home in the Arctic”
by Mary Dalheim, *National Geographic for Kids!* (Spring 2001)

- 17 Record Important Ideas**
Create an FQR with historical fiction

Now Let Me Fly: The Story of a Slave Family
by Dolores Johnson (Aladdin Paperbacks, 1993)

- 18 Target Key Information**
Code the text to hold thinking

A History of US: From Colonies to Country (Chp. 14)
by Joy Hakim (Oxford University Press, 1993)

- 19 Determine What to Remember**
Separate interesting details from important ideas

A History of US: From Colonies to Country (Chp. 14)
by Joy Hakim (Oxford University Press, 1993)

- 20 Distinguish Your Thinking From the Author's**
Contrast what you think with the author's perspective

“Can Kids Stop Kids From Smoking?”
by Ritu Upadhyay, *TIME for Kids*, News Scoop Edition
(February 23, 2001)

“Western Roundup”
by Kathryn R. Hoffman, *TIME for Kids*, News Scoop Edition
(March 15, 2002)

“Turn It Off!”
by Kathryn R. Hoffman, *TIME for Kids*, News Scoop Edition
(April 12, 2002)

“One Bad Bug”
by Claudia Wallis, *TIME for Kids*, News Scoop Edition
(January 28, 2000)

- 21 Construct Main Ideas From Supporting Details**
Create a Topic/Detail/Response chart

“Big Talkers”
by Peter Winkler, *National Geographic for Kids!* (September 2001)

Cluster 6: Summarize and Synthesize

- 22 Read, Think, and React**
Paraphrase and respond to information

“The Maya”
by Stella Sands, *Kids Discover* (2003)

- 23 Think Beyond the Text**
Move from facts to ideas

“Garana's Story”
by Kent Page, *National Geographic Explorer* (September 2002)

- 24 Read to Get the Gist**
Synthesize your thinking as you go

“The Many Faces of Masks”
by Jackie Glasthal, *National Geographic for Kids!* (October 2001)

- 25 Reread and Rethink**
Rethink misconceptions and tie opinions to the text

“Hard At Work”
by Ritu Upadhyay, *TIME for Kids*, World Report Edition
(January 24, 2003)

- 26 Read, Write, and Reflect**
Create a summary response to extend thinking

“The Comeback Humpbacks”
National Geographic for Kids! (September 2000)