Nebraska Family and Consumer Sciences

Reading Comprehension: Part 2

Reading comprehension is a truly vital skill in everything we do. Simply reading a passage is not enough. We must understand and apply what we are reading. This week’s FACS Focus will finish our series on reading comprehension techniques and focuses on how we frame reading to set students up for success.

Before reading. Give the students an idea of what they will be reading about. This could include key terms to look for, the overall concept, or pieces of information to be looking for as they read. Also, if there is a piece of the text that references something they have already learned, identify that prior to reading.

During reading. Setting up a respectful classroom environment where intrigue is encouraged is extremely important. If students feel they are reading to finish first they will ALL miss out. Encourage students to jot down information such as familiar terms, unfamiliar terms, questions they have, etc. A common practice is to have students mark text using the following key:

!=something that surprises you/is new to you
?=something that you aren’t sure about or don’t understand, maybe just needing more information
*=something that confirms something you already knew

After reading. Discuss! Discuss! Discuss! Just having a student read a passage is not enough. By having students discuss with each other and then as a class you can identify errors, read a passage again to clarify, or have meaningful discussion on a topic. In addition, if students know they are going to be asked questions about what they read, they are more likely to check themselves and work toward comprehension while reading.

Hopefully you can implement one or more of these ideas in your classroom reading time soon. If you have reading comprehension ideas, please share them on the FACS listserv!

Call to Action

Be on the lookout for information about a 2 day literacy training as part of the pre-conference for NCE this June 1-2. The focus will be on teaching literacy in the content areas using strategies generated based on the new Nebraska ELA Standards.

CSO Spotlight

FCCLA

Check out this message from Waverly High Adviser, Mallory Gregory:

Some Waverly High School FCCLA members have teamed up to create an awesome event for our school and we want as many people to come. We want schools from outside and inside our district to come, too! It would be a great social and educational outing for all members, families, and community.

WHS is inviting ALL District 145 families and surrounding communities, people of all ages, to attend the free Arrive Alive Community Night Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at Waverly High School; open house going from 5:30-7p.m., dynamic keynote speaker beginning at 7 and ending by 8:30p.m.

From 5:30-7p.m. the open house will be held in the high school commons and north parking lot with many valuable, interactive simulators and resources for people of all ages to view and participate in including the Nebraska Stage Patrol’s seatbelt simulator and car roll over simulator, fatal vision goggles, a crashed car, Waverly Fire Department equipment, free car seat safety checks, MADD, and State Farms Celebrate My Drive Pledging Booth.

Following the open house from 7-8:30p.m., the students have booked a DYNAMIC speaker they personally heard last year. Reggie Shaw’s powerful, life-changing message discusses his personal encounter as a distracted driver at the age of 19, taking the lives of 2 people. His humbling, heart-wrenching presentation ties in his past with many valuable statistics and research that will change one’s perspective about driving, one life at a time.

FACS Focus

October 14, 2014

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”
-Dr Seuss, I Can Read with my Eyes Shut!