Using a Metacognitive Bookmark

PURPOSE

When teachers first model metacognitive conversation with a Think Aloud, many give students a bookmark for keeping track of the common kinds of thinking processes the teacher will be demonstrating.

Students can use this same bookmark as a scaffold for their own metacognitive conversations when practicing with a partner.

As a scaffold, its use should fade as students become more comfortable with metacognitive conversation routines.

PROCEDURE

- Give each student a copy of the bookmark and briefly review students' understanding of the various categories and examples.
- Explain that as you Think Aloud, you will model many of these. Ask students to listen for examples.
- Think Aloud, modeling metacognitive conversation.
- Invite students to describe some of the thinking processes you used.

Let students know that they can use the bookmark whenever they practice metacognitive conversation on their own and with classmates.

Sample Metacognitive Bookmark

Predicting
I predict . . .
In the next part I think . . .
I think this is . . .

Visualizing
I picture. . .
I can see . . .

Questioning
A question I have is . . .
I wonder about . . .
Could this mean . . .

Making connections
This is like . . .
This reminds me of . . .

Identifying a problem
I got confused when . . .
I'm not sure of . . .
I didn't expect . . .

Using fix-ups
I'll reread this part . . .
I'll read on and check back . . .

Summarizing
The big idea is. . .
I think the point is. . .
So what it's saying is. . .

Think Aloud Bookmarks

Think Aloud

I *predict* that...

I can *picture*...

A *question* I have is...

This is *like*...

This *reminds* me of...

I'm *confused* about...

I'll *reread* this... (fix up)

The *big idea* here is...

I think/believe/ wonder... (commenting)

Think-Aloud

I *predict* that...

I can *picture*...

A *question* I have is...

This is *like*...

This *reminds* me of...

I'm *confused* about...

I'll *reread* this... (fix up)

The *big idea* here is...

I think/believe/ wonder... (commenting)

Think-Aloud

I *predict* that...

I can *picture*...

A *question* I have is...

This is *like*...

This *reminds* me of...

I'm *confused* about...

I'll *reread* this... (fix up)

The *big idea* here is...

I think/believe/ wonder... (commenting)

Think-Aloud

I *predict* that...

I can *picture*...

A *question* I have is...

This is *like*...

This *reminds* me of...

I'm *confused* about...

I'll *reread* this... (fix up)

The *big idea* here is...

I think/believe/ wonder... (commenting)

Think-Aloud

I *predict* that...

I can picture...

A *question* I have is...

This is *like*...

This *reminds* me of...

I'm *confused* about...

I'll *reread* this... (fix up)

The *big idea* here is...

I think/believe/ wonder... (commenting)

Think Aloud Checklists

Types of Think-Alouds

Predicting

I *predict* that...
In the next part, I think...
I think this is...

Picturing

I can *picture*...
I can see...

Questioning

A *question* I have is... I wonder about... Could this mean...

Making connections

This is *like*...
This *reminds* me of...

Identifying a problem

I'm *confused* about...
I'm not sure of...
I didn't expect...

Summarizing

So what it's saying is... The big idea here is... I think the point is...

Using fix-ups

I'll reread this...
I'll read on and check
back...

Other

Think-Aloud Checklist

Make a tally mark each time you hear one of the following:

Predicting

Picturing

Questioning

Making connections

Identifying a problem

Summarizing

Using fix-ups

Other

Types of Think-Alouds

Predicting

I *predict* that...
In the next part, I think...
I think this is...

Picturing

I can *picture*...
I can see...

Questioning

A *question* I have is... I wonder about... Could this mean...

Making connections

This is *like*...
This *reminds* me of...

Identifying a problem

I'm *confused* about...
I'm not sure of...
I didn't expect...

Summarizing

So what it's saying is... The big idea here is... I think the point is...

Using fix-ups

I'll reread this...
I'll read on and check back...

Other

Think-Aloud Checklist

Make a tally mark each time you hear one of the following:

Predicting

Picturing

Questioning

Making connections

Identifying a problem

Summarizing

Using fix-ups

Other