Icon Frame

Read a storybook to your child and then help your child show their thinking about the book using the icon frame.



Step 1: Details

After reading the storybook, start with the detail flower section of the frame. Talk about what happened first in the story, next and so on... Discuss which events were the MOST important to the story. Add those details to the frame with writing or drawing. We determined importance in class by asking ourselves if the story would still be the same if that detail was taken out. For example, would The Three Little Pigs be the same if the Wolf didn't try to blow down the houses?



Step 2: Patterns

Thinking about the important details in the story, see if you can find a pattern. For example, did a character keep trying something even though it didn't work? Write or draw a pattern from the story.



Step 3: Big Ideas

Think hard about the important details and patterns from the story. What is the author trying to teach you by telling this story? Write or draw the author's big idea. For example, "keep trying even when something feels hard." Or, "use help from friends." (This will probably feel like the hardest section for your child. Many students want to tell you how the story ends, not the author's big idea. Watch out for this common mistake.)



Step 4: Connections

Think of a *quality* connection to the story. By "quality", I mean a connection that helps you better understand the story or main character. For example, here are two connections to Goldilocks and the Three Bears. One connection is, "I have a bed too." Another connection is, "One time someone that we didn't know was in our house too." The first example is a connection but doesn't really help the reader understand the story any better or have empathy for the characters. The second example helps the reader put themselves in the Bear family's shoes. "When someone was in my house that I didn't know, I was scared. The Bear family was probably scared too." Help push your child's thinking and try to make a quality connection.

Change Our Vote persuasive letter

Directions are on the sheet. A list of class generated community service ideas will be sent on Wednesday by email.

Draw a Picture math problem solving strategy

These problems were very difficult for the whole class this week. Read the problems to your child slowly. Have him or her draw what the problems describe as you read it. Use the drawing to count and find the final answer.

Act it Out math problem solving strategy

These are higher level/more challenging addition and subtraction story problems. Use manipulatives like legos or blocks to physically act out the problems. Have your child pretend to "eat" or "give" the items to you in order to find solutions.