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Method Mania: Activities to Teach Comprehension Skills and Strategies

By Lynne Ecenbarger

AuthorHouse. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 72 pages. Dimensions: 10.8in. x 8.3in. x 0.3in. Although educators often disagree about many aspects of literacy, there appears to be universal agreement that the primary purpose for reading is to comprehend text. Yet defining comprehension has not been easy. Synonyms for comprehension instruction include critical thinking, understanding, making meaning, reasoning, and higher level thinking skills. To complicate matters, were asked to assess an entity in which there is no agreed-upon definition. Forced to focus on comprehension separately in order to explain and discuss it, teachers have long used superficial methods to monitor students learning. My purpose for writing this book is not to engage in the battle over defining comprehension, nor to detail best practices for assessing learning. It is my goal to help students develop a sense of conscious control over the reading process using a set of strategies that they can adapt when reading any text. These include: retelling, summarizing, making and confirming predictions, and asking good questions before, during, and after reading. Activities are included for explicitly modeling and teaching these very strategies. Also included are activities for developing skills that lead to flexible strategy use. Skills are generally thought to...



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