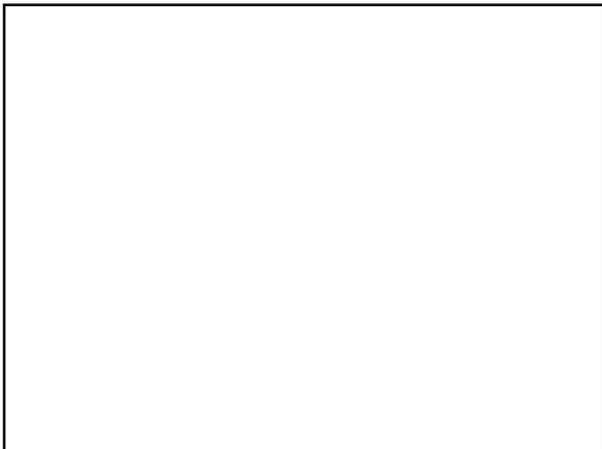


What More Can I Do to Help My Struggling Readers? (Grades 4-12)
Katie McKnight, Ph.D.

Handout is Here:

www.KatherineMcKnight.com





What We Will Do in this Session

- Identify the Characteristics of the Adolescent Struggling Reader.
- Copious Strategies and Ideas to Support Adolescent Readers

Components of Reading

Alphabetic: understanding and using the sounds that make up words (phonemic awareness) and the letters that correspond to those sounds (decoding) and being able to relate the letters and sounds to the particular words they represent (word recognition)

Fluency: identifying words accurately in an effortless manner and being able to read them in text with appropriate intonation, stress and phrasing

Vocabulary: knowing and understanding the meanings of words and using them with flexibility and precision

Comprehension: the process and product of constructing meaning from what is read, involving an interaction between a reader and a text, for a purpose and within a context

The difference between struggling and reluctant readers

- Motivating our students to *actually* read.
- Creating choice and gathering engaging resources.

For Older Readers, It's About Vocabulary and Comprehension

**Vocabulary
and
Comprehension**



COMPREHENSION

More on Schema

The notes were sour because the seam split.

Source: Alvermann, D. and Phelps, S. (2002). *Content Reading and Literacy: Succeeding in Today's Diverse Classrooms*. (5th Ed.), Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

Read a Wide Variety of Texts

CHOICE! Students must read in *every* class.

CHOICE! Provide students with varied and engaging texts.

Use strategies that support struggling readers.

CHOICE! Your classroom and school must provide abundant access of engaging and diverse reading materials.

Discerning Text Patterns

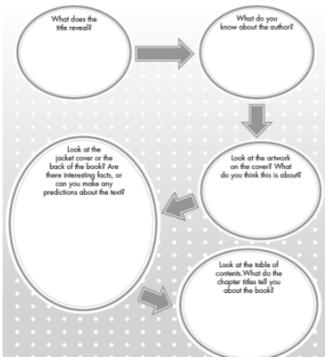
- Look at the punctuation. Is there anything unusual about it?
- Is there any repetition within the passage? What is the effect of that repetition?
- How many types of writing are in the passage? (For example, narration, description, argument, dialogue, rhymed or alliterative poetry, etc.)
- Can you identify paradoxes in the author's thoughts or styles?
- What is left out or kept silent?



10

TEXT STRUCTURES

Name _____
Date _____



11

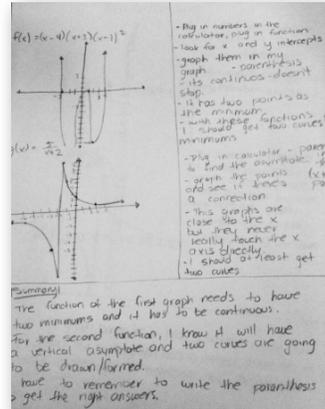
Six Ways to Use Textbooks More Effectively

1. Empathy- Do you remember when you had difficulty in a subject and the text was difficult?
2. Help the students to get started. We need to "front-load" our teaching (schema).
3. Don't leave kids alone with their textbooks.
4. Choose wisely. Be selective with assignments. Be strategic about what is most important.
5. Supplement richly.





Visualization Matters!



Sample from Mathematics: Graphing

COMMON CORE LITERACY

SEQUENCE TRAILS

Name: Ada Tsiftis
Date: November 7, 2013

Directions: Write down and illustrate the key events in chronological order.

Life Cycle of a Main Sequence Star

<p>1. Protostar is born in a collapsing cloud of interstellar dust and gas.</p> 	<p>2. Protostar condenses to collapse and hydrogen fusion begins in the core. Protostar starts spinning like a top.</p> 	<p>3. The core runs out of hydrogen and then helium in the core contracts and the outer layers expand, making a Red Giant.</p> 
<p>4. Red Giant star explodes, making a planetary nebula (a expanding cloud of dust with the star core still in the center).</p> 	<p>5. All the dust and gas in the planetary nebula is blown away leaving the leftover core. This is called a White Dwarf.</p> 	<p>6. White Dwarf star runs out of hydrogen and helium and it becomes a Black Dwarf.</p> 

Sequence Trails: Explain and Sketch

COMMON CORE LITERACY

STORY TRAILS

Name: Susan Martin
Date: September 12, 2013

Directions: Write down and illustrate the key events in chronological order.

"Romeo and Juliet" by William Shakespeare

1  Two feuding families: Montagues and Capulets in Verona.	2  Romeo and Juliet fall in love.	3  Juliet's cousin kills Romeo's friend and Romeo kills Juliet's cousin.
4  Juliet fakes her death. Romeo doesn't know.	5  Romeo kills himself. Juliet kills herself.	6  The family feud is ended by the deaths of the two central lovers.



Sequence Trails:
Explain and Sketch

Wordless Picture Book Instruction Sheet

Using Alexandra Day's Car! books as inspiration, you must create a wordless picture book of all the theorems we have reviewed in class. If you choose to work with a partner, you can divide the theorems between the two of you as you see fit. But if your partner flakes, you suffer with him or her.

This is a WORDLESS picture book, so you can't use math words or math symbols! You must show the meaning of the theorem completely through the use of pictures, so you will need to think creatively. DO NOT label the theorems in your picture book. Your classmates will try to guess them later.

You don't have to create a story with a plot, like the actual Car! books, but you can if you want to. It's acceptable to have unrelated pictures, one for each theorem.

The goal is to create quality books, so please don't submit cursivey pen drawings on lined binder paper. We'll assemble books in class on the date _____ be prepared!

Here is an example of a good illustration of the Congruence Theorem:



Notice that the hash marks denoting Congruence are there, but the picture is NOT just a boring copy of class notes.

Here is an example of a not-so-good illustration of the Triangle Angle Sum Theorem:



Yuck! Boring! This illustration is almost an exact copy of class notes. And if used math symbols, it would earn 0 points. Be more creative!



Wordless Picture Book

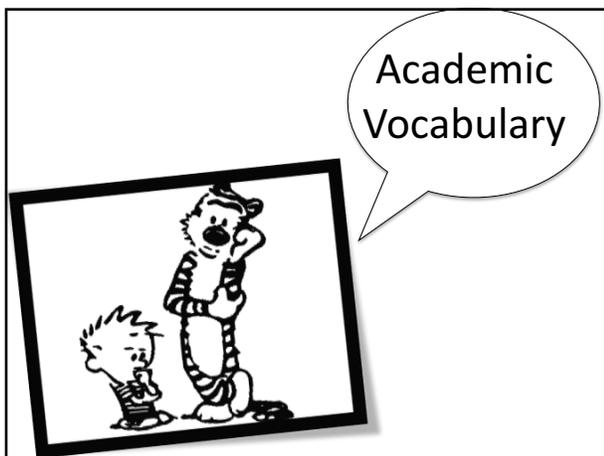
Free! Close Reading Posters

Download Here:
www.katherinemcknight.com

Or scan:




www.katherinemcknight.com



Vocabulary Slide Sample 1

Name _____
Date _____

VOCABULARY SLIDE

Name _____
Date _____

WORD DETECTIVE

Describe
Sherlock Holmes

Context clue #1
They are solving a crime and Sherlock Holmes believes that clues are a key to crime scenes.

Context clue #2
To solve a crime you need to put together little facts.

Definition
Involving only the most simple and basic facts.

Picture or Illustration

Word Detective

Name _____
Date _____

Book Title: _____

SIX COLUMN VOCABULARY ORGANIZER

Vocabulary word	Synonym	Antonym	Part of speech	Spelling	Image	Picture or icon that represents the word
Melancholy	Leading, sordid	Adjective	Silent	Swiftness		
Occasionally	At times	Adverb	Sometimes	Flavor		
Inherent	Without help or outside	Adjective	Digital	Flavor		
Unpleasant	Unpleasant	Adjective	Adapt	Arctic		
Uncomfortable	To lack comfort	Adjective	Arctic	Calm		
Best?	To have the best	Noun	To explain	Arctic		
Formulating	Very painful	Adjective	Unpleasant	Calm		



Name _____
Date _____

ABC BRAINSTORM

Topic: _____

A		N	
B		O	
C		P	
D		Q	
E		R	
F		S	
G		T	
H		U	
I		V	
K		X	
L		Y	
M		Z	

As students brainstorm information, the ABC framework helps them organize their thoughts. Because a fact or point of information must be recorded for each letter of the alphabet, the students must dig more deeply to retrieve information for this kind of brainstorm.