

Prompting Discussion and Metacognition

Prompts to anticipate the read

- What do you already know about this topic/idea/problem/issue?
- What information do we still need as readers? How do we get it?
- What strategies would you need to use?
- What resources are available or could be developed?
- What does this topic/phrase/concept/phrase/statement remind you of or mean to you?
- Why might learning about this topic/problem be important?

Prompts to make interpretive connections between ideas

- How does ___ relate to ___?
- What ideas have we learned before that might be useful in addressing this problem/reading this text/understanding this situation?
- How is this similar to another event/concept/story/learning you already knew about?
- What relationship might this have to our class/school/life/community?
- Give examples of how ___ comes up in other situations?
- How will we be able to use what we have learned?
- Describe some ways in which this problem/topic may come up in life.

Sentence stems

- That reminds me of...
- An experience I've had like that was...
- I remember another book with a similar theme, problem, etc.
- I saw a connection to this in the newspaper, on the news.
- A connection from social studies, math, history, etc...

Prompts to encourage Inference

- What would happen if?
- Do you see pattern or are you getting an idea of where the author is headed in this passage/text/ paragraphs?
- What is this causing you to think about as readers?
- What insights or wondering do you have up to this point in our reading?
- Where in the text are you drawing your insight?
- What does the author want us to know/believe/do?

Prompts to reflect on the Reading

- What did you find most interesting/confusing or difficult?
- What more do you want to know about the topic?
- If you had questions/wondering, how did you confirm or disconfirm your response?
- What if ___ happened instead? How could the passage have ended?
- Describe any confusion you had and the strategies you used to help you get unconfused.

Prompts to summarize

- What were the key points/big understandings/strategies to remember and use as readers?
- How would you summarize what you've learned so that someone who might not have read this text would understand?
- Why are the things you mentioned important?
- Describe something you know/understand/learned as a result of the reading?