**Thinking about Reading**

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| Communication Arts:  Grade 2  Readers Build Good Habits  Parent Resource Sheet  (\* DESE = directly from Missouri’s Department of Elementary and Secondary Education glossary)     |  |  | | --- | --- | | Some Technical Terms and Explanations | Ways to Encourage Understanding at Home | | **Context Clues**:  information from the surrounding words, illustrations, or sentences that helps give meaning to a specific word or phrase (DESE) | *Let’s think about that word…what could that mean?  What other words could help you figure it out?* | | **Main Idea**:  implicit or explicit message; what a text is “mostly about.” (DESE)   Main idea is typically expressed in a complete sentence | *Who or what was this book/article mostly about?  What’s important for us to remember about the who or the what?*  (e.g. Harriet Tubman helped save the lives of many people*or* Cheaters never win.) | | **Drawing Conclusions**:  use of facts and inferences to make a judgment or decision (DESE) | *What kind of person would you say Michael is in this story?  What makes you think that?*or*How do you think Mr. Jones feels right now?  How do you know?* | | **Events in Logical Sequence**  events or things that come one after another in a particular order. | *What happened at the beginning of the story? What happened after…? What happened before…?* | | **Basic Comprehension Questions/Self-Monitor Comprehension**  understanding what is read on a literal level | *Who are the characters in the story? Where did the story happen? What was the problem in the story?*  *How was it solved?* | | **Character:**  the people/animals in the story | *Who is the main character? How do you know?* | | **Character Traits**:  characterization developed by describing various aspects of the character: physical appearance, personality, speech, behavior/actions, thoughts and/or feelings, interactions with other characters, etc. (DESE) | *If you were going to introduce this character to a friend, what would you say? What type of personality does Julia have? What does she do in the story that helps show that?  Do we know what he/she looks like?* |   (\* DESE = directly from Missouri’s Department of Elementary and Secondary Education glossary) |