

Questions to Consider in Using Nonfiction

What kinds of reading and writing will our students do once they leave the education system?

How often are curriculum disciplines other than reading and writing assessed through reading and writing?

How much instructional reading and writing time is devoted to helping students understand the function and nature of text types and the reader or writer's role in each?

What is the ratio of fiction/nonfiction materials used when assessing progress in reading and writing?

What is the ratio of fiction/nonfiction materials available within the school for instructional purposes or for children to choose to read?

How much money was spent on resources for reading compared with that spent for writing?

How much material was purchased in book form and how much provided examples of real-world reading?

(Adapted from Margaret Mooney (2001). Text Forms and Features: A Resource for Intentional Teaching, New York: Richard C. Owen Publishers, Inc.)

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