

Text Structure & Features

Guided Reading –Report Reading and Exploring

Before Reading

The Orientation

Tell the group the reason why you have chosen the text, and the strategy or strategies they will need to use to fully comprehend the information in the report.

Ask the following

What are we going to read about?

Why has the author used the word (e.g. twisting), in the heading? Using your knowledge of reports, what are you expecting in this text?

Discuss the topic (e.g. tornadoes.)

Read the back cover blurb together and discuss the information it provides.

Ask: How has the back cover blurb added to what you already know about the topic?

Discuss the contents page and how it helps you locate information in the text.

Skim the report and look briefly at the placement of:

- Information about the topic of the report.
- Added details about the topic of the report.
- Features that the author has used to help you to find more information.

Reading and Discussing The Text

Have the students read a page. Ask several questions (both think or open questions, and know or closed questions) that require the students to predict and infer, but use features of the text to confirm their predictions or inferences.

Ask the students to read to the end of the chapter.

Generate a short list of things they should think about and notice as they read.

For example, they could think about

- Why the girl and her mother survived
- What might have caused people to die and for buildings to be destroyed
- What is an interesting fact they have found in the chapter?

Look briefly at the start of the next section of text, and discuss the diagrams, graphs or added information.

Look at the different ways that the information is presented.

- Why is the scale (or map or graph) useful?
- How can it help the reader?
- Can you find different ways that the information is found in addition to the print?

Ask students to finish reading the report

As they read, they could think about:

- Why is the layout of the pages different in each chapter?
- How is the topic formed? How is this shown in the report?

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After Reading

Discuss the formation of (the topic.)

Ask students to show you in the text where the information came from, and how using that feature of report helped them comprehend better.

Ask them how they used the print, scale, diagrams and photos and other features to comprehend more.

Early Finishers

Have the students take 1 piece of information from the text and present it using another feature (such as a graph, table, timeline.)