



Reading - Definitions

Read Aloud-are seen as the single most influential factor in a young child's success in learning to read. The teacher or other experienced reader reads aloud to students for enjoyment and meaning. Favourite stories/texts, rich in language and meaning, can be read aloud many times.

Read alouds provide opportunities for students to experiment with listening and speaking skills. As students observe and listen to experienced readers reading, they develop strategies important for a variety of listening and speaking situations. The teacher provides a high level of support while the students are the listeners experiencing and contemplating literary works they cannot yet read. Students may at one time or another read aloud in class, serving a different purpose. Students may read aloud to each other, in small groups, or to a whole group at the request of a teacher.

Shared Reading - Shared Reading is an interactive reading experience that occurs when students join in or share the reading of a big book or other enlarged text while guided and supported by a teacher or other experienced reader. Students observe an expert reading the text with fluency and expression. The text must be large enough for all the students to see clearly, so they can share in the reading of the text. It is through Shared Reading that the reading process and reading strategies that readers use are demonstrated. In Shared Reading, children participate in reading, learn critical concepts of how print works, get the feel of learning and begin to perceive themselves as readers.

Guided Reading- is a situation in which a teacher supports each reader's development of effective strategies for processing texts at increasingly challenging levels of difficulty. In guided reading, the teacher selects and introduces the text to the students in a small group where each student has similar instructional needs and is able to read similar text with support. The teacher provides a rich yet short introduction of the text to be read. S/he may work briefly with individual students as they read through the selection. All students are reading the same material at the same time though individual pacing may vary.



Independent Reading- provides time for students to read a text without the need of assistance. Students are drawn to texts that are interesting, eye catching and meaningful to their lives. Students need to learn how to select appropriate reading texts for independent reading practice.

Language Experience- is an approach concerned with helping beginning readers to bring their own knowledge and experience to construct meaning from print. Relating oral language to written language and relating reading to writing is important. The teacher acts as scribe, recording the dictated words, phrases, or sentences from the students. Over several days, from a single composition, the teacher and students can read and reread the text until it becomes familiar to the students. Students may begin to read the lines alone and begin to associate written words with their own spoken words. From this text, students can focus on recognizing individual words, consonants at beginnings of the words, onset and rims, and phonics, while focusing and emphasizing the construction of meaning (Adapted from Weaver, 1994).