

Predicting

Predictions are based on clues in the text such as pictures, illustrations, subtitles, blurb, text type and plot.

Good readers think about what's going to happen and make smart guesses based on what they know and have read.

Children should be encouraged to justify predictions. This keeps them interested and engaged during the reading experience.

Some of the language thinking stems used when predicting includes

- Since ___ happened, I think ___ will happen.
- While looking over the text before reading, I predict I will learn about....
- I'm guessing this book will be about....
- I changed my first prediction because it said in the book....
- Although the author hasn't told me this, I think....

A question I am asking myself is....
The prediction I am making is....



Part 4: Reading Comprehension – Predicting

Predicting is closely related to inferring. Readers predict actions, events and outcomes that are confirmed or dismissed during the reading experience. Predicting is like forward inferring. When inferring, the reader looks back to confirm thinking. When predicting, the reader always looks forward.



When readers predict, they use information in the text and their background knowledge to make smart guesses about what they may encounter in the text. Readers use this strategy to prepare to read and monitor their comprehension during a reading experience.

Predicting assists with organising thinking as new material is learned. It requires the reader to substantiate their understanding as they read, while consistently confirming, rejecting or adjusting their predictions.

Tips to help at home!

- ✓ *Predict the words - Read the title of a text and challenge your child to jot down 5 or 6 key words they predict will appear.*
- ✓ *Predict the headline - Cut out a number of newspaper headlines. Remove a key word. Ask your child to come up with 2 possible answers and justify their choices.*
- ✓ *Postcard predictions - Challenge your child to make predictions about the details of the country depicted in the picture.*
- ✓ *Unusual object - Show your child the object and have them predict what it could be used for and how it works. While showing the object, point out structures or components that could be clues as to what it is without actually explaining how it works.*

Focus Questions

- *What do I think will happen next?*
- *Why did you make this prediction?*
- *How did the illustrations help you to predict?*
- *How did you use your prior knowledge to help you to predict?*
- *What clues in the story led you to think that?*
- *Based on the information you have read so far, what do you predict will come next?*
- *Which predictions were confirmed by the text? Which predictions need to be revised?*