

Lesson 20: Asking & Answering Questions Before, During and After Reading

Supplies Needed:

- A copy of fiction story with a fairly simple story line.
- Question & Answer Organizer (displayed in any way so that all students can see it)
- Copies of the Question & Answer Organizer for each student
- Tool for writing on the organizer

Procedure:

- Explain to your students that all readers' "inner voices" should be constantly asking questions as they are reading stories. Answers should also be popping into their minds as they continue to read the story and find or discover them.
- Show students the Question & Answer Graphic Organizer and let them know that you want them to practice asking and answering questions and this is one way to do that. Read through the organizer together and emphasize the different "WH" words at the beginning of each question.
- Begin reading your fiction story aloud to students. Stop at any point in the story as a question pops into your mind and tell the students what your question is. Find the correct spot on the organizer to record your question. Tell students to listen to see if they can hear an answer to that question anywhere in the rest of the story.
- Invite students to share other "WH" questions of their own during the story and record them on the organizer. Again, tell them they need to listen for answers as you continue to read. Record answers on the organizer as they are answered in the story.
- It may happen (or if not, then it is important to point out) that not all of the questions are answered. Students need to know that all of the questions they have may not be addressed by an author in a story,

but that it is still a vital part of reading that they are asking those questions. It helps their thinking to get more involved.

- Give students their copies of the organizer and send them with their book bags to their independent reading spots. Let them know that they may not get the entire organizer filled out in one day, but they should get a start and have something to share.
- Gather students at the end of independent reading time and have a few students share the questions and/or answers they found in their reading. Then have the rest of the class share a question with a partner near them.
- Direct them to continue working on their organizers and be prepared to share them during a conference or turn them in by a certain day so that you can see how they are coming along in their questioning.

****There is also a set of "WH" Bookmarks and a Story Map also provided with this lesson to enhance the concept of asking & answering questions during & after reading. These resources can be taught in the same way...with modeling before the students use them. They are more directed than the Question & Answer Organizer in that they ask students specific questions about the stories they are reading. Still, they emphasize that seeking answers and understanding in reading is very important.*

Notes: _____

