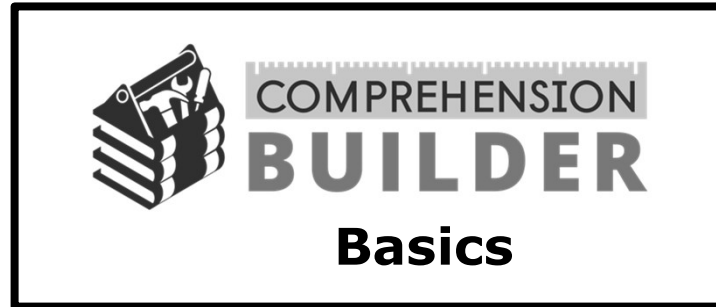
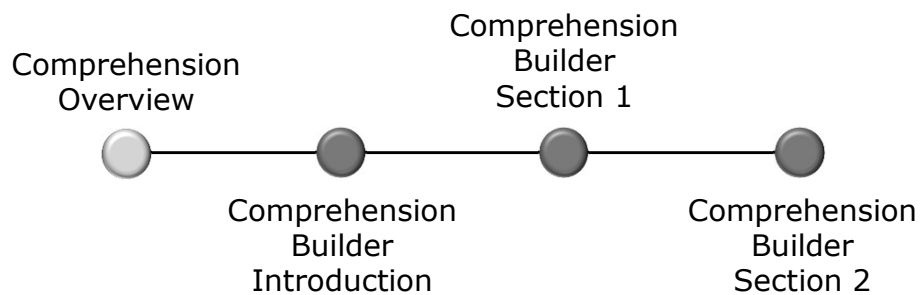




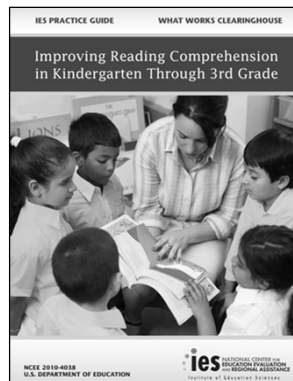
Comprehension Builder



Comprehension

Comprehension is the ultimate goal of reading.

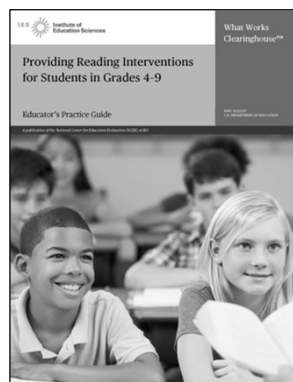
- The IES practice guide (K-3) defines reading comprehension as the process of **simultaneously extracting and constructing meaning through interaction and involvement with written language.**
- Rather than passively taking in meaning, good readers analyze text, internalize it, and make meaning for themselves.



Comprehension

Comprehension is the ultimate goal of reading.

- The IES practice guide (4-9) provides teachers with ways to support students as they learn and practice **routines and reading habits that enable students to understand what they are reading.**
- Students need opportunities to ask and answer questions and monitor their comprehension as they read.



Reading Comprehension is Complex

Reading comprehension requires a conscious effort and the integration of a range of skills, strategies, and knowledge that even fluent and avid readers may not develop naturally.

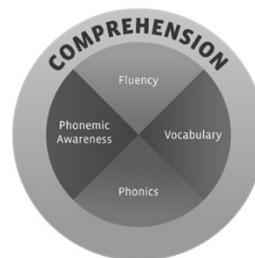
Therefore, it's part of our role as educators to provide support to strengthen students' reading comprehension.

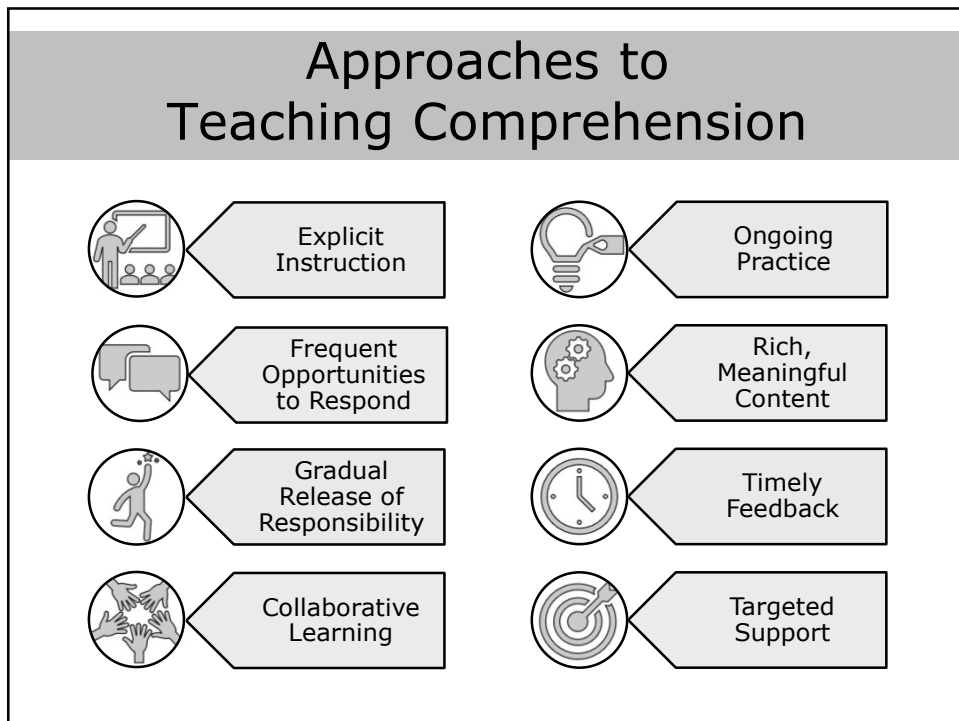
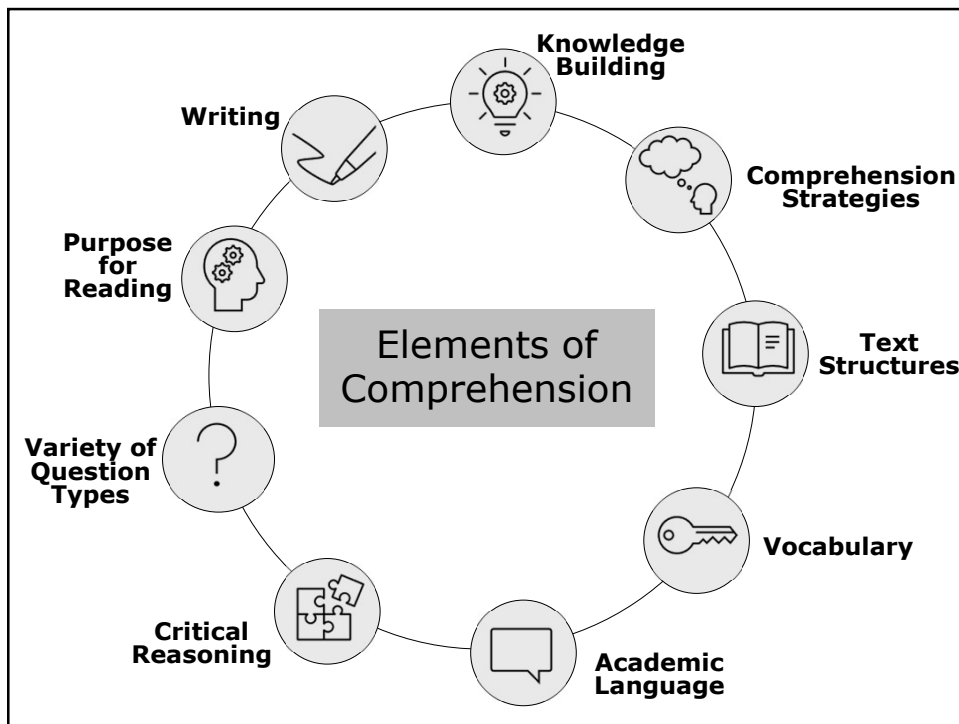
Introduction to Comprehension Builder, 2026

Building Comprehension is Critical

Other foundational skills create an essential pathway, but it's important to remember that reading comprehension is not a simple byproduct of other skills.

Development of reading comprehension must begin early and continue throughout a student's reading journey.





Comprehension and Read Live Programs



Read Naturally® Live



Word Warm-ups® Live



One Minute Reader® Live

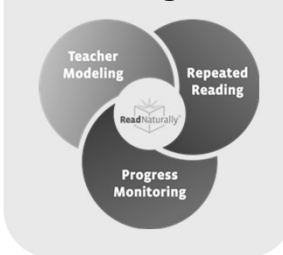


Read Naturally® Live—Español

Content:

- Nonfiction
- High-interest
- Knowledge-building

Strategies



Comprehension and Read Live Programs



Read Naturally® Live

Read Naturally Live Steps

- 1. Select a Story**
 Click the story you want to read.
- 2. Key Words**
 Click to learn the key words.
- 3. Prediction**
 Predict what the story will be about.
- 4. Cold Timing**
 Time yourself reading, and then view the graph.
- 5. Read Along**
 Read along with the narrator.
- 6. Practice**
 Practice reading on your own.
- 7. Quiz**
 Answer the quiz questions.
- 8. Retell/Word List-Spelling**
 Retell the story or practice reading words from a phonics lesson.
- 9. Pass**
 Read the story to your teacher, and then view the results together.

Opening Read Naturally Live
On the Student Login page, enter your account ID, user ID, and password, and click Log In.

Closing Read Naturally Live
Always click Log Out to close the program.

Progress Bar
The bar at the top of the screen shows where you are in the steps.

Reporting Instructions
Click to hear the instructions again.

Using the Reading Guide
Click to turn the reading guide on or off.

Starting the Timer
Click to start timing yourself reading the story.

Stopping and Restarting
Click if you want to stop reading so you can start over.

Finishing a Story
Click if you finish reading a story before the bell sounds.

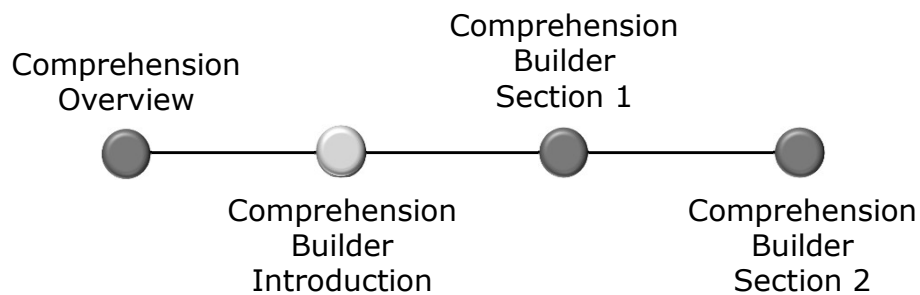
WinBastic
Play this word game while you wait for your teacher to log in. Click the best answer to score points.

Rationale and Research Basis



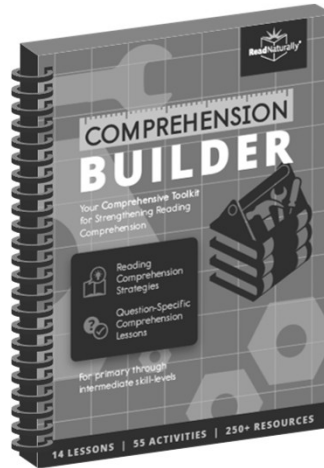
- Reading Comprehension Strategies
- Question Types
- Other Elements of Comprehension
- Instructional Components

Comprehension Builder



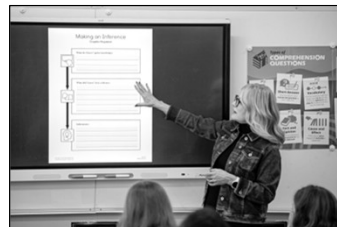
What is Comprehension Builder?

- Comprehensive toolkit for strengthening reading comprehension
- Practical resource for teachers
- Lessons for readers of any age for use in a variety of settings



Purpose of Comprehension Builder

- Strengthen students' capacity to understand what they read
- Explicitly teach comprehension strategies for before, during, and after reading
- Directly teach students how to respond to a variety of comprehension questions



Benefits of Comprehension Builder

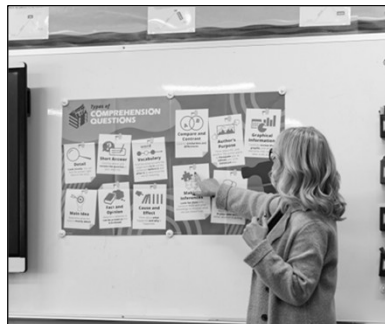


- ✓ Minimizes Prep Time
- ✓ Enables Flexibility
- ✓ Streamlines Implementation
- ✓ Fosters Professional Growth
- ✓ Supports Learning Challenges
- ✓ Scales Across Grade Levels



- ✓ Deepens Engagement
- ✓ Builds Knowledge
- ✓ Sparks Curiosity
- ✓ Increases Confidence
- ✓ Raises Test Scores
- ✓ Fosters High-Level Thinking

How it Works



Lessons may be taught in order or as-needed

Each lesson is made up of 2–6, 15 to 45-minute activities

Materials are listed clearly and steps are easy to follow

Many options for adapting and adjusting instruction

Students practice skills with high-interest stories

Suggestions for reinforcing skills over time

What's Included

Lesson Book

- 14 Lessons
- 55 Activities



Section 1:
Before Reading
During Reading
After Reading

Section 2:
Question-Specific
(e.g., Main Idea,
Detail)

USB Drive

- 18 Practice Stories
- 250+ Resources



Posters

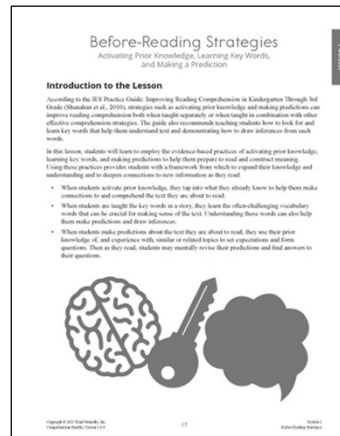
- Before, During, and After Reading
- Types of Comprehension Questions



What's Included?

Lesson	Activities	Resources	Lesson Length (min)
Section 1: Before Reading			
Lesson 1: Activating Prior Knowledge	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 2: Learning Key Words	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 3: Making a Prediction	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 4: Previewing the Text (Before Reading)	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 5: Previewing the Text (After Reading)	✓	✓	15-20 min
Section 2: During Reading			
Lesson 6: Reading for Main Idea and Detail	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 7: Reading for Sequence of Events	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 8: Reading for Cause and Effect	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 9: Reading for Problem and Solution	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 10: Reading for Comparison and Contrast	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 11: Reading for Inference	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 12: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 13: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 14: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 15: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 16: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 17: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 18: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 19: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 20: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 21: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 22: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 23: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 24: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 25: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 26: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 27: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 28: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 29: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 30: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 31: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 32: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 33: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 34: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 35: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 36: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 37: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 38: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 39: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 40: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 41: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 42: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 43: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 44: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 45: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 46: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 47: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 48: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 49: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 50: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 51: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 52: Reading for Evaluation	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 53: Reading for Synthesis	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 54: Reading for Application	✓	✓	15-20 min
Lesson 55: Reading for Reflection	✓	✓	15-20 min

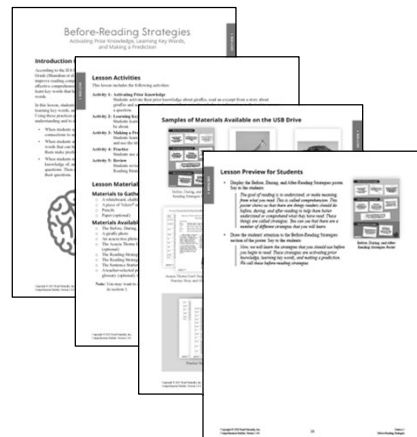
Comprehension Builder Section 1



- ➔ ▪ Before-Reading Strategies
- During-Reading Strategies
- After-Reading Strategies

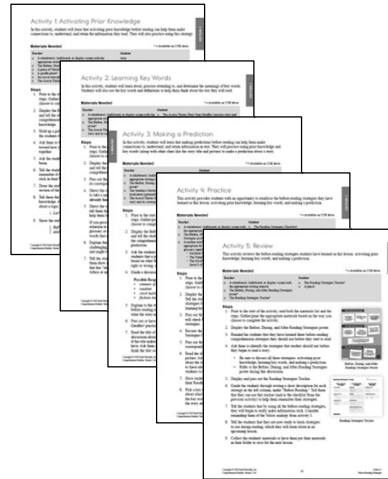
Comprehension Builder Section 1

- Introduction
- Lesson Activities
- Lesson Materials
- USB Drive
- Lesson Preview



Comprehension Builder Section 1

- **Activity 1**
 - Activating Prior Knowledge
- **Activity 2**
 - Learning Key Words
- **Activity 3**
 - Making a Prediction
- **Activity 4**
 - Practice
- **Activity 5**
 - Review



Comprehension Builder Section 1

Beyond the Lesson

- Remind the students of your discussion about Velcro and how it makes things stick together.
- Ask the students how making things stick is related to the before-reading strategies that they have learned.
- Discuss with them how they can use the image of Velcro to remind them to use the before-reading strategies.
- Use one or more of the before-reading strategies with the students in other contexts, e.g., before reading an article or chapter for another class.
- Challenge students to tell you in 60 seconds or less what readers do before reading to Make it Stick!
- Throughout the day, talk about what words mean and how they contribute to the students' understanding of something.
- Talk about predictions about what will happen in other subjects and discuss why the students think that.



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Comprehension Builder Basics 100

32

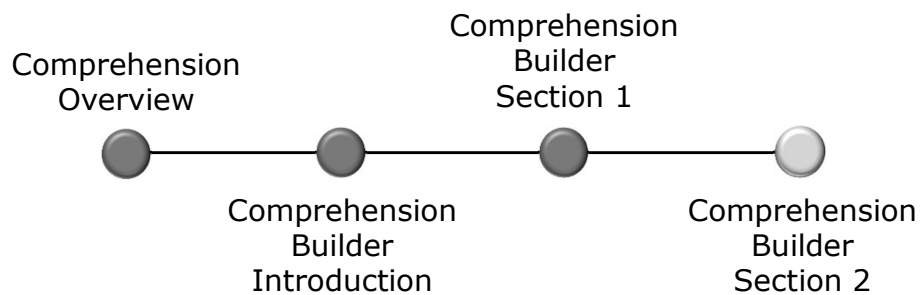
Student 1
Before-Reading Strategies

Comprehension Builder

Section 1



Comprehension Builder



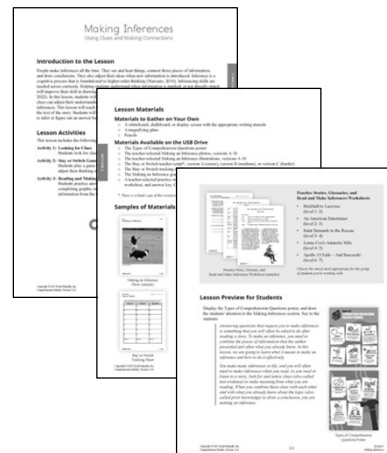
Comprehension Builder Section 2



- Detail
- Short Answer
- Vocabulary
- Main Idea
- Fact and Opinion
- Cause and Effect
- Compare and Contrast
- Author's Purpose
- Graphical Information
- Making Inferences
- Retelling and Summarizing

Comprehension Builder Section 2

- Introduction
- Lesson Activities
- Lesson Materials
- USB Drive
- Lesson Preview



Comprehension Builder Section 2

- **Activity 1**
 - Looking for Clues
- **Activity 2**
 - Stay or Switch Game
- **Activity 3**
 - Reading and Making Inferences



Comprehension Builder Section 2

Beyond the Lesson

- Continue to practice making inferences with pictures or information that is presented in other subject areas such as social studies or science.
- Present riddles to your students as another way to practice making inferences.
- Encourage students to make their own Stay or Switch game and play it with their classmates. You can have them use the blank copy of the Stay or Switch teacher script.
- Present picture books with limited words to your students and practice making inferences about what is happening in the story. These can be done together as a large group, in small groups, or with students working independently. Some examples of books that work well for this purpose include:
 - *Twinkl* by David Wiesner
 - *A Ball for Daisy* by Chris Raschka
 - *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* by Chris Van Allsburg
 - *The Umbrella* by Ingrid and Dieter Schubert
 - *Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann
 - *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs
- If you feel your students need additional practice, select a new story to practice with:
 - Select a story that will likely interest the students, even though it may not be the correct reading level for each one. You can use another one offered in Comprehension Builder or another story your students are reading.
 - Work through the steps of this lesson again, using the new story.
- Remind students that the answer to an inferential question is found by connecting their relevant prior knowledge to any relevant pieces of text evidence in order to decide on the best answer.



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Comprehension Builder Basics 1.0

229

Section 2
Making Inferences

Comprehension Builder Section 2



Support for Diverse Learners

Resources available to support:

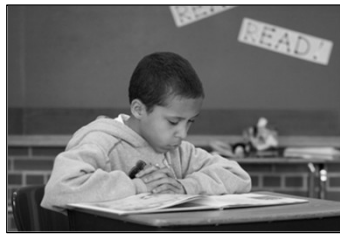
- Students experiencing cognitive overload
- Multilingual learners
- Students with dyslexia or other reading disabilities
- Students needing enrichment and or acceleration



Guidance for Monitoring Progress

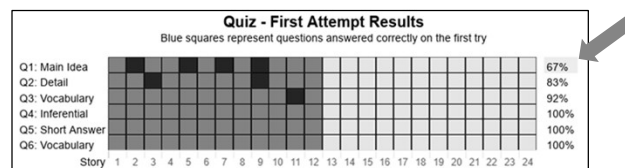
Sources of student data:

- Frequent observation and formative assessment
- Standardized, summative assessments
- Embedded core curriculum comprehension assessments
- Read Naturally Live and Encore II quiz results



Comprehension Builder and Read Naturally Live

- Students' performance on the Quiz step in Read Naturally Live can be used to inform which Comprehension Builder lessons/activities are needed and to monitor general progress over time.
- Teachers may choose to align Comprehension Builder lessons and activities with corresponding steps and/or the introduction of particular question types in Read Naturally Live.



Comprehension Builder Free Sample Lessons

Before-Reading Strategies Lesson

In this lesson, students will learn to employ the evidence-based practices of activating prior knowledge, learning key words, and making predictions to help them prepare to read and construct meaning. Using these practices provides students with a framework from which to expand their knowledge and understanding as they read.

Download Lesson, Resources, and Practice Stories

Activities in This Lesson:

- Activity 1: Activating Prior Knowledge
- Activity 2: Learning Key Words
- Activity 3: Making a Prediction
- Activity 4: Practice
- Activity 5: Review

5 Lesson, 7 Activity, 3 Practice

Making Inferences Question-Specific Lesson

In this lesson, students will learn about making inferences generally and how more information or clues can lead them to adjust their understanding of things. They will also learn how to answer questions by making inferences. This lesson will teach students that answers to inferential questions are not directly stated in the text of the story. Students will learn that they need to look for clues and consider what the text says to infer something.

Download Lesson, Resources, and Practice Stories

Watch the Full Lesson

Activities in This Lesson:

- Activity 1: Looking for Clues
- Activity 2: Story or Switch Game
- Activity 3: Reading and Making Inferences

3 Lesson Activities, 4 Activity Resources, 3 Practice Stories



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email: info@readnaturally.com
website: readnaturally.com

Connect with us!

Questions?

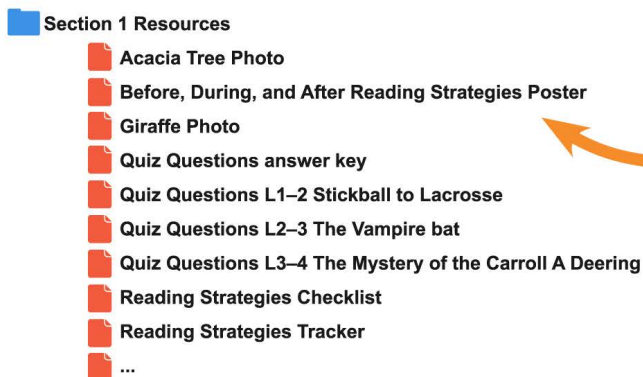


USB Drive

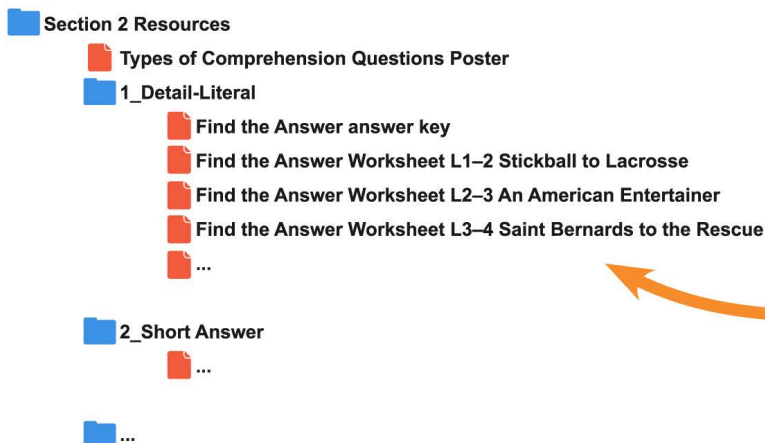
The USB drive for Comprehension Builder includes the resources (over 250) created for use in the 55 activities. All practice stories are in one folder, and the additional materials for each lesson can be found in its corresponding section and/or lesson folder. Below, you can review an example of the file and folder structure on the USB drive.



The Practice Stories folder contains all 18 practice stories referenced throughout the Comprehension Builder lessons, along with their corresponding glossaries. There is also a version of each practice story without the vocabulary words identified. These files are listed by their approximate level range.



Section 1 contains mostly resources that are used in more than one lesson. Therefore, all resources used for section 1 lessons are found in the Section 1 Resources folder.



The Section 2 Resources folder has subfolders for each lesson which contain its corresponding resources.

Section 1: Reading Comprehension Strategy Lessons (Grade Levels 1–8*)

Lesson		Introduced	Taught	Practiced	Reviewed	Lesson Length** (approximate time)
Instructional Focus (specific strategies/skills addressed)						
Before-Reading Strategies	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Activating Prior Knowledge	✓	✓	✓		15–20 min
	Activity 2: Learning Key Words	✓	✓	✓		25–30 min
	Activity 3: Making a Prediction	✓	✓	✓		25–30 min
	Activity 4: Practice (of the three strategies taught in this lesson)			✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 5: Review (of the three strategies taught in this lesson)				✓	15–20 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
During-Reading Strategies	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Questioning	✓	✓	✓		15–20 min
	Activity 2: Visualizing	✓	✓	✓		25–30 min
	Activity 3: Making Inferences	✓	✓	✓		25–30 min
	Activity 4: Monitoring, Clarifying, and Fix-up	✓	✓	✓		25–30 min
	Activity 5: Practice (of the four strategies taught in this lesson)			✓	✓	30–40 min
	Activity 6: Review (of the four strategies taught in this lesson)				✓	15–20 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
After-Reading Strategies	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Answering Questions	✓	✓	✓		25–30 min
	Activity 2: Retelling and Summarizing	✓	✓	✓		30–40 min
	Activity 3: Practice (of the two strategies taught in this lesson)			✓	✓	30–40 min
	Activity 4: Review (of the two strategies taught in this lesson)				✓	15–20 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied

Section 2: Question-Specific Comprehension Lessons (Grade Levels 1–8*)

Lesson		Introduced	Taught	Practiced	Reviewed	Lesson Length** (approximate time)
Instructional Focus (specific strategies/skills addressed)						
Detail (Literal)	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Finding the Answer	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 2: Filling in the Blank	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 3: Putting Events in Order	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Short Answer	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Restating Simple Questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	20–25 min
	Activity 2: Restating Harder Questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 3: Reading and Responding to Short-Answer Questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Vocabulary	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Noticing and Learning Difficult Words	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Activity 2: Using Context to Answer Vocabulary Questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Activity 3: Answering Different Types of Vocabulary Questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Main Idea	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Looking at the Details and Seeing the Big Picture	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 2: Finding the Main Idea	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–40 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Fact and Opinion	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Fact and Opinion: What's the Difference?	✓	✓	✓	✓	20–25 min
	Activity 2: Using Clues to Identify Facts and Opinions	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Activity 3: Recognizing Facts and Opinions in Text	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–40 min
	Activity 4: Identifying Misinformation	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied

Section 2: Question-Specific Comprehension Lessons (continued)

Lesson		Introduced	Taught	Practiced	Reviewed	Lesson Length** (approximate time)
Instructional Focus (specific strategies/skills addressed)						
Cause and Effect	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: What Would Happen if...	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 2: Signal Words for Cause and Effect	✓	✓	✓	✓	35–40 min
	Activity 3: Connecting Cause and Effect in Text	✓	✓	✓	✓	35–40 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Compare and Contrast	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Making Simple Comparisons	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 2: Compare and Contrast and Their Signal Words	✓	✓	✓	✓	35–40 min
	Activity 3: Thinking About Relationships Using Analogies	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Activity 4: Compare and Contrast Within a Story	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 5: Compare and Contrast Between Stories	✓	✓	✓	✓	35–40 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Author's Purpose	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Understanding Three Main Author's Purposes	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 2: Identifying Persuasive Text	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–35 min
	Activity 3: Identifying Informative Text	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–35 min
	Activity 4: Identifying Entertaining Text	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–35 min
	Activity 5: Distinguishing Between Author's Purposes	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–35 min
	Activity 6: Writing With a Purpose	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied

Section 2: Question-Specific Comprehension Lessons (continued)

Lesson		Introduced	Taught	Practiced	Reviewed	Lesson Length** (approximate time)
Instructional Focus (specific strategies/skills addressed)						
Graphical Information	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Demonstrating the Value of Graphical Information	✓	✓	✓	✓	35–40 min
	Activity 2: Identifying Different Types of Graphical Information	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Activity 3: Interpreting Graphical Information	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Activity 4: Connecting Graphical Information to Text	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Making Inferences	Lesson Preview for Students	✓				2–3 min
	Activity 1: Looking for Clues	✓	✓	✓	✓	20–25 min
	Activity 2: Stay or Switch Game	✓	✓	✓	✓	25–30 min
	Activity 3: Reading and Making Inferences	✓	✓	✓	✓	40–45 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied
Retelling/Summarizing	Activity 1: Oral Retelling (includes an Activity Preview)	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–35 min
	Activity 2: Writing a Simple Retelling (includes an Activity Preview)	✓	✓	✓	✓	30–35 min
	Activity 3: Writing a Retelling/Starting to Summarize (includes an Activity Preview)	✓	✓	✓	✓	35–40 min
	Activity 4: Summarizing (includes an Activity Preview)	✓	✓	✓	✓	45–50 min
	Beyond the Lesson (suggested activities for review and application of skills learned)			✓	✓	Varied

* Teachers can adapt most of the activities to students operating in these grade levels using the options offered in the activity (some easier and some harder), as well as selecting story text that is a good match for the students in question.

** Teachers can adjust the length of time for each activity (and therefore lesson) through their choices about which activities to complete, how many times to work through each exercise, which instructional options to implement, and how long to spend on discussion.