Transferable Strategies

- Make a mind movie as you read.
- Notice when something doesn’t make sense to you. Go back and reread.
- Read in chunks. After each chunk, ask yourself, “What’s happening?”
- When you have an idea about the text, ask yourself, “What part of the text is making me think this?”
- When you don’t know what a word means, use the surrounding text to figure out the meaning.
- Use dialogue and punctuation to help you sound like a storyteller.
- Pay close attention to all parts of the word. Make sure you are saying the beginning, middle and end.
- Listen to yourself read. If something doesn’t sound right, go back and break the word into pieces.

Kindergarten Specific Strategies

- Read the pictures, and then read the words.
- Point under each word.
- Look at the picture. Look at the first letter of the tricky word, and think about what word makes sense.
- Notice the pattern, and use it to read each page.
- Read the whole word.
- Stop after every page and ask yourself, “What’s happening?”
Genre Specific Strategies

Fiction

- Pay attention to what characters say, do, and think. Then ask yourself: “What does this make me think about the character?”
- Think about all the little problems your character is facing and think “What’s the biggest issue my character has?”
- To find the problem, think about how the character reacts to different people and events.
- As you read, hear each character’s voice in your head.
- Stop at the end of each chapter and think, “what’s the most important event that happened?”
- Notice when a character does something that surprises you. Then think: “Why is this surprising?”
- Notice when a problem gets resolved. Think: “What did my character learn or how has my character changed?”

Nonfiction

- Stop at the end of each page and think, “What did I just learn about this topic?”
- Read in chunks. Think: “How do all of these details or facts connect?”
- Notice text features such as diagrams and photographs and think, “What is this teaching me about this topic?”
- Notice the headings and subheadings. Think: “How does this information connect?”

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