Lesson Selection

Students choose from hundreds of high-interest, vocabulary-controlled reading selections that are leveled in terms of reading difficulty in various genres.

Keywords

Keywords are flashed in context, and students type in these words, followed by pronunciation of the words by a narrator. This recognition training prepares students to more instantly recognize these words accurately as they are encountered while reading the selection.

Preview

Before starting the story section of the lesson, students are presented with a short preview that lists the story’s highlights.

Story Presentation

Students read selections in multi-segments (four to nine segments), requiring shorter intervals of attention, or two-segments, requiring more sustained concentration. Students read each story in a self-paced format, a timed format, or a guided-window format that displays text in both a timed and left-to-right manner or in a combination of these formats. The timed, left-to-right reading slot encourages more rapid and sequential intake of words, which assists students in associating groups of words and translating these into meaning. Students are encouraged to “risk take” and proceed with reading for meaning throughout the reading selection. Students are discouraged from pausing to engage in prolonged, conscious decoding. Through these timed, scanned displays, students also are encouraged to attend very carefully to all word configurations, to recognize words more rapidly and sequentially, to retain these word impressions accurately in short-term memory, and to associate words more rapidly to create meaning from what is being read.

Comprehension Questions

After each selection, or interspersed within the selection, students complete a number of skill-coded questions with rereading opportunities. These questions focus on the development of 25 major comprehension competencies. Should comprehension fall below expectations, rereading of lessons is automatically assigned. Should the independent reading rate fall below expectations in relation to a student’s Guided Reading™ rate, a prereading exercise at a higher than usual rate is provided to facilitate the student’s ability to read at the higher rate.

Results Report

At the end of each lesson, a Results report indicates students’ independent rates (I-Rates), guided rates (G-Rates), and comprehension scores (Comp Scores) for the lesson. Level goals also are indicated. When students reach these goals, the program presents them with a Level Award and moves them to the next highest content level.

Benefits: Guided Reading™ is designed to improve visual and preceptual skills, short-term memory, and silent reading fluency skills. Student rate and comprehension also will improve, as well as ease and comfort in reading.