



Learning together

Activating Knowledge and Reading with Intention

ACTIVITY #2

SEQUENCE: STRATEGIES WHILE READING —
UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT 2ND CYCLE — PRIMARY

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Purpose of the activity

At this point, you and your child have skimmed through the text or book you are about to read together (activity #1). Now that you have a general idea of what awaits you, you must ask yourself what you know about the subject and identify your reading intention.



Relevance of the activity

Knowledge activation is essential for good reading comprehension. When you become aware of what you know about the subject, you encourage the creation of links between new information and what you already know. This, in turn, helps you remember the information. This is a fundamental principle for all learning.



Supplies



■ you can use the text in the appendix

LET'S GO!

Explain the activity:



Today, we will prepare for reading by activating our knowledge on the subject of the text and identifying our reading intention.

Explain why:



- 1 Activating our knowledge about the subject of the text helps us make links between new knowledge and what we already know. This is a great way to remember new information.
- 2 When you set a reading intention, you ask yourself the following question:
What is my purpose for reading this text?

Explain when:



It is therefore a strategy that is used before reading. However, you will make adjustments to create connections between new knowledge and what you already know.

Try it together:



Once you have gotten an overview and collected clues that give you a general idea of the text, you must first ask yourself what your reading intention is:

- What is your purpose for reading this text?
- What do you want to learn or discover?

Then, you can activate your knowledge on the subject of the text based on your intention.

Before reading, we activate our knowledge of the subject of the text or of the structure (A text that tells a story? A text that informs?)

Here is a sample text to help you understand this strategy. (See appendix)

Now that we know that the text is about forests, you might ask yourself what you know about the subject.

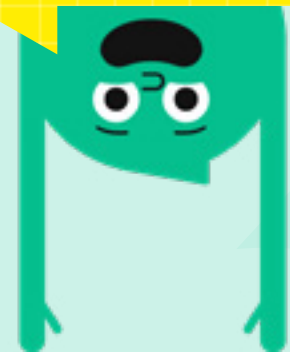
- *For example, I know that there are different types of forests, that different types of forest have different types of trees, that they grow in different climates and in specific places in the world. I think that is what we will learn in the text; the subheadings give us clues as well as the words in bold.*

When I'm reading, I will therefore pay particular attention to the new information that I will discover: It will allow me to check my predictions.



Quick tips!

As we are reading, we make connections between the new knowledge and what we already know. We actively check whether our predictions were correct and if they meet our reading intention.



Activating your knowledge means...

Prior to reading:

- reflecting on what you already know about the subject
 - What I **Know**
- understanding the structure of the text (an explanatory or descriptive text)

While reading:

- making connections between what you already know and new information;
- better remembering new information;
 - What I **Want** to know
- checking if our predictions are correct and adjusting them, as needed.
 - What I have **Learned**

Here is a summary table to record your predictions

What I Know	What I Want to know	What I have Learned
There are different types of forests that grow in specific climates and regions in the world.	What are the types of forests? Where do they grow?	Temperate forests grow in Europe and North America.

A Voyage Through Forests

Dear Adventurers, come and discover our beautiful forests!
Forests are like large families of trees, each with its own mystery.
Slip on your boots and get ready for an incredible adventure!

Rainforests

Welcome to the rainforest! Imagine you are walking through a **jungle** where the trees are so high that they block the sun's rays. Here, there is a lot of shiny foliage. Did you know that rainforests are located **near the equator**, where it is always hot and humid? They are home to exotic animals such as monkeys and colourful parrots. Unfortunately, tropical forests and the animals that live in them are not immune to deforestation.



Boreal forests

Now imagine a forest where the trees are covered with sparkling snow. Also called taiga, the boreal forest is found in countries where it is very cold, such as **northern Canada** and **Russia**. In these forests, we find **conifers** such as firs, spruce and tamaracks. Because of climate change, snow is melting earlier, affecting the growth of trees and shrubs, as well as the way of life of the animals that live there, such as black bears.



Temperate forests

We end our voyage in the temperate forests. Here we find **conifers**, but also hardwoods such as **maple and birch**. This type of forest is found in **Europe and North America**. The colour of the trees' leaves changes with the seasons, putting on a spectacular show, especially in autumn. Throughout the year, you see different species of bird, squirrel and deer. Temperate forests are increasingly affected by forest fires because the weather is warmer and there is less precipitation.

Lastly, forests give us fresh air and are home to a wide variety of animals, both big and small! They're the lungs of the Earth. By taking care of our planet and planting trees, we can help protect these beautiful places for generations to come.

See you soon for another adventure,
Jean Bouleau

