



# Learning together

## Reading Words Based on Clues in the Sentence

ACTIVITY #5

SEQUENCE: STRATEGY WHILE READING —  
DECODING NEW WORDS 2<sup>ND</sup> CYCLE — PRIMARY

By **Marie-Lou Laplante**,  
Educational Specialist



### Purpose of the activity

The goal of this activity is to help your child identify words from clues that are present in the sentence to check and adjust their reading.



### Relevance of the activity

Your child is still a beginning reader. He must be able to use different clues in the sentence to check and adjust their reading. This is what will allow him to make meaningful connections between the words he knows orally and their written form.



### Supplies

To do this activity, you can use:

- ☐ the text in the appendix
- ☐ the school texts that your child must read
- ☐ a book at their reading level



## LET'S GO!

### Explain the activity:



The goal of this activity is to help your child identify words based on clues that are present in a sentence to check and adjust their reading.

### Explain why:



To become an effective reader, you must learn to recognize words immediately. Did you know that you can use clues that are present in the sentence to help you. These clues also allow you to check and adjust your reading.

### Explain when:



When you read texts, you should pay attention to clues that are present in a sentence that could help you read more easily.

### Try it together:



Some words may be difficult to decode and this can make understanding difficult. To figure it out, we will ask ourselves questions to find clues that will help us to read what is written and check our understanding.

So here's a sentence from the text *A Voyage Through Forests* (see appendix)

Let's read this aloud:

- "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**."

That's a long sentence! And several words were harder to decode. As you can see, there are different coloured words in this sentence.

- **Black**: **frequent** words, or the words that you immediately recognize.
- **Green**: words that are **easier** to decode.
- **Orange**: words that might be **harder** to read.

To help us understand, we will ask ourselves a few questions:

- **Who or what are we talking about in this sentence?**  
Climate change? Snow? Trees and shrubs? Animals? Hmm, it's not clear. There is a lot of information.
- **What are we saying about them?** It says that snow melts earlier, that it affects the growth of trees and shrubs and the way of life of animals. It says that it is because of climate change.

Okay, now I understand that we're talking about snow melting earlier because of climate change. And that this has consequences for the growth of trees, shrubs and the way of life of animals.

**Now I understand.** I know that I have read the difficult words correctly because I am able to rephrase the sentence in my words. I can make a mental picture of each of these words that were difficult to read and it respects the meaning of the sentence.

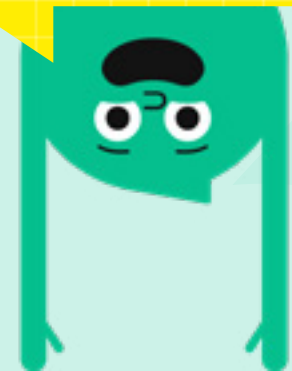
So, I will read the sentence again to remember the information.

## Quick tips!

As you can see, here I have combined two strategies: Decode the difficult words into syllables and use sentence clues to check my understanding.

I can therefore answer yes to these two questions:

- Is the word I read really the one written?
- Does the word I read make sense compared to the rest of the sentence?



## 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**