

Learning together

Hint Hunting: Getting an Overview of a Text

ACTIVITY #1

SEQUENCE: READING STRATEGIES
3RD CYCLE — PRIMARY

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Purpose of the activity

Your child is getting ready to start a new reading activity. It might be a story or an informational text. Today, we will introduce an initial strategy to help them get ready to read: previewing the text.



Relevance of the activity

By previewing the text or book, your child can get a general sense of what it is about and start reading on the right foot.



Supplies



To do this activity, you can use:

- texts your child has to read for school;
- a book at your child's reading level.

LET'S GO!

What?



Today, we are going to get ready to read by previewing the text.

Why?



Previewing a text or a book is a bit like watching a movie trailer. It gives you a glimpse of what you are about to read. It is the same with reading. By previewing, you can get an idea of the topic or the story ahead. This strategy can also help you make predictions as you read.

When?



Previewing is something you do before you start reading.

How?



*Before starting the activity, choose a book that matches your child's reading level. **When getting ready to read, we start by previewing the text to find as many clues as possible.***

First, it is important to know which clues to look for. I will show you what to look for and what these clues can tell you about the text.

The title

It tells you what the text is about and gives you an initial idea of the topic or the story.



The illustrations

They also give you information about the topic. They can help you understand the text better, especially if the title is not very clear or includes words you do not know. The images can help you figure out what the text is about.



The headings

They help you understand the different parts of the topic. By reading them, you can already tell what each section will be about. They can also help you find specific information more easily.

Charts and graphs

They provide more information about the topic and add to what is explained in the text.

Words or sections that stand out (bold, underlined, etc.)

This means the information is important or that the word might be difficult. It is a sign that you may need to use another strategy to understand it, like looking it up in a dictionary.



Now, let's try together with your book. I will ask you a few questions. Try to answer them by previewing the book and using the clues you see.

Here are some questions you can ask your child:

- What do you think this book will be about?
- Where in the book do you think we will learn about (insert an element based on headings or sections)?
- Can you explain in your own words what this chart or image shows?
- Look at the pictures. What do you think the topic will be?
- Can you name a few things you think you will learn from this book?



Ask your child how they know.

In their answer, they should refer to the clues you looked at together, such as the title, images, and headings.

Don't forget!

Encourage your child to preview books at the library. This strategy can help them choose a book based on the clues they notice.

