

Learning together

Picture It In Your Head

ACTIVITY #9

SEQUENCE: READING STRATEGIES
3RD CYCLE — PRIMARY

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Purpose of the activity

In the previous activity, we learned how to identify the main ideas and summarize what we have read in order to understand the text better. The goal of this activity is to use these main ideas to visualize what we are reading.



Relevance of the activity

It is impossible for your child to remember all the words of an important passage or the whole book or text. There are too many elements to remember all at once for their working memory!

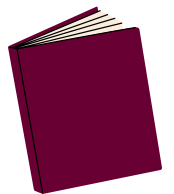


Supplies

■ Text *Lea's Quest* (see Appendix)

To carry out this activity, you can also use:

- the school texts your child needs to read;
- a book that matches your child's reading level.



LET'S GO!

What?



Today, we are going to look at the following strategy: to picture what you are reading in your head in order to better understand and memorize what we have read.

Why?



Our memory can only retain a **limited** amount of information. By creating a movie in your mind while you read, you imagine the scenes and the characters, which helps you better understand and remember the story.

When?



You can take the time to visualize the story or the text while reading, and even afterward.

How?



Today, we are going to read the story *Lea's Quest* (see Appendix) and create a **movie in our minds**.

While reading, we will imagine the scenes. I will start reading—listen carefully to the story. Then, it will be your turn.

Read the first two paragraphs of the text titled Lea's Quest in the Appendix with your child.



Let's take a short pause. Close your eyes and imagine Lea in her garden when she discovers the little hedgehog. Tell me what you see.

- ☐ What does Lea look like?
- ☐ Tell me what happens when she gets closer to the hedgehog.
- ☐ It says that it is in distress. How do you imagine this in your mind? What sounds does it make? Why is it in distress?
- ☐ Now, describe what happens when the hedgehog thanks Lea.

Share your own "movie" as well.

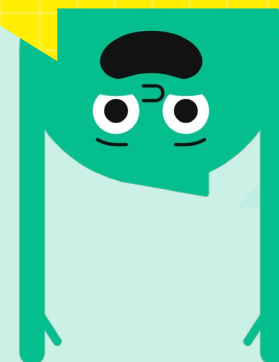
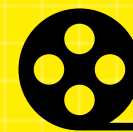
- ☐ Oh really? I imagined Lea with messy hair because she was playing outside!
- ☐ I also think the hedgehog is stuck under a big rock.
- ☐ You're right, when she gets closer, I also pictured her moving slowly ...



At first, take frequent pauses to help your child visualize and guide them with your questions. As they become more comfortable, they will need less support, and you will simply be able to give reminders. You can now practise this strategy using a book that matches your child's reading level.

Don't forget!

To use this strategy, it is important to read with your child so you can support them with your questions. You can take turns reading and practise with short passages; it is not necessary to have long reading sessions.



Lea's Quest

In the small village of Sainte-Colombe, hidden between huge mountains and dense forests, lived a young girl named Lea. Lea was not like other children her age. She had a secret: She could talk to animals! This extraordinary gift was a mystery even to her, but it led her on incredible adventures.

One morning, as the sun peaked through the clouds, Lea heard a strange rustling coming from her yard. Intrigued, she got nearer and discovered a small hedgehog in trouble who had become trapped under a fallen branch during the storm the previous day. Gently, she freed the little creature who, as a thank you, whispered in her ear that a great danger threatened the forest.

Determined to protect her home and her animal friends, Lea prepared for a quest that would take her far beyond the borders of her village, in places where the mysteries of nature are revealed to those who dare to explore them.

