

DOINGWHATWORKS



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Reciprocal Teaching Roles

Gateway High School, California

Topic: Adolescent Literacy

Practice: Comprehension Strategies

To prepare her students to improve their reading comprehension, teacher Suzanne Herko uses this handout to train her students in Reciprocal Teaching roles.



Reciprocal Teaching

What?

It is a method to help our reading comprehension.

Why?

- It models & reminds us of what we should do as good readers all the time.
- It allows us to draw upon our strengths together as we make sense of difficult text.

How?

- In groups of 3-4, we take turns assuming four different roles. These four roles imitate what we do as good readers.
- We read a short section of text (as short as 1 paragraph to as long as ½ a page) and complete our roles.
- Any member of the group can answer the “Questioner’s” question.
- We rotate roles for the next section of text and continue.

What are the roles?

Discussion Leader: Reads the paragraph and keeps the discussion of the paragraph on task.

Summarizer: Picks out the main points of the paragraph and puts them in his/her own words.

Questioner: Asks a question to the group that asks for factual recall.

Predictor: Makes a hypothesis of what might happen next or how a character, plot, or setting might change.

What are some sample statements/questions for the different roles?

Role	Sample Statement/Question stems. . .
Summarizer	I think the main idea is. . . In this section. . . .
Questioner	Who is. . . ? Where did. . . .happen? Why did. . . .? Where is this taking place?
Predictor	Maybe we'll learn that character X. . . . Perhaps . . . will happen next. I predict the author will. . .