

Previewing

Objective: The student will improve reading comprehension by previewing text.

INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT:

Reading comprehension: brainstorming and making predictions to preview text

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY:

Previewing

Purpose: This activity teaches students how to preview text through brainstorming and making predictions.

MATERIAL/AT:

- Independent- or instructional-level reading material: Expository text
- Overhead projector
- Overhead marker
- Preview Logs

DELIVERY OF INSTRUCTION:

Grouping: Whole class divided into small groups

1. Introduce the topic of the lesson to the students and ask them to record it on the top of their Preview Logs.
2. Discuss how the topic relates to previous lessons, and have students record the information in the first box of their Preview Logs.
3. Introduce three to five key vocabulary words and their definitions on an overhead transparency or chalkboard. Have the students record the key vocabulary words, along with their definitions, in the second box of their Preview Logs.
4. Introduce and discuss unfamiliar proper nouns from the passage to be read, and have students record them in the third box of their Preview Logs.

5. Ask each group to brainstorm what they already know about the topic from other lessons, friends, movies, independent reading, and/or family members. Instruct the students to record their ideas in the fourth box of their Preview Logs.
6. Pass out copies of the passage, or direct the students to the passage to be read in their textbooks.
7. Instruct the students to scan the passage looking for clues or physical features, such as the title, subtitle, headings, subheadings, and/or pictures, that could be used to make predictions about the passage.
8. Tell each group to make two predictions regarding what they think they are going to learn about in the passage. Have the students record them in the fifth box of their Preview Logs.

PROGRESS MONITORING:

After the lesson, check the students' completed Preview Logs to ensure that they previewed the passage by brainstorming and predicting.

Periodically provide students with appropriate-level reading passages and comprehension questions. Identify the percentage of correct responses obtained by the students, and determine whether satisfactory progress is being made to achieve their annual goals. Make instructional decisions as needed.

(adapted from Vaughn & Klingner, 1999)

Preview Log

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Topic: _____

How does this topic relate to previous lessons?
Key vocabulary:
Unfamiliar proper nouns:
What do I already know about this topic?
Predictions: I think that I am going to learn about . . . I think that I am going to learn about . . .



Previewing (adapted)

(adaptations noted by italics)

Objective: The student will improve reading comprehension by previewing text.

INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT:

Reading comprehension: brainstorming and making predictions to preview text

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY:

Previewing (adapted)

Purpose: This activity teaches students how to preview text through brainstorming and making predictions.

MATERIAL/AT:

- Independent- or instructional-level reading material: Expository text *with numerous, relevant clues or physical features that facilitate making predictions*
- Overhead projector
- Overhead marker
- Preview Logs

DELIVERY OF INSTRUCTION:

Grouping: *Small, teacher-led group of three to four students*

1. *Find an independent- or instructional-level expository text with numerous relevant clues or physical features (e.g., title, subtitles, headings, subheadings, highlighted key vocabulary, pictures) on the topic being studied.*
2. Introduce the topic of the lesson, and ask the students to record it on the top of their Preview Logs.
3. Discuss how the topic relates to previous lessons and have students record the information in the first box of their Preview Logs.

4. Introduce three to five key vocabulary words and their definitions on an overhead transparency or chalkboard. Have the students record the key vocabulary words, along with their definitions, in the second box of their Preview Logs.
5. Introduce and discuss unfamiliar proper nouns from the passage to be read, and have students record them in the third box of their Preview Logs.
6. Ask the group to brainstorm what they already know about the topic from other lessons, friends, movies, independent reading, and/or family members. *Facilitate the discussion with leading questions or comments about previous lessons and experiences the students have had.* Instruct the students to record their ideas in the fourth box of their Preview Logs.
7. Pass out copies of the passage, or direct the students to the passage to be read in their textbooks.
8. Lead the students in scanning the passage for clues or physical features, such as the title, subtitle, headings, subheadings, highlighted key vocabulary, and/or pictures, that could be used to make predictions about the passage.
9. Guide the students in making two predictions regarding what they think they are going to learn about in the passage. Have the students record the predictions in the fifth box of their Preview Logs.

PROGRESS MONITORING:

After the lesson, check the students' completed Preview Logs to ensure that they previewed the passage by brainstorming and predicting.

Periodically provide students with appropriate-level reading passages and comprehension questions. Identify the percentage of correct responses obtained by the students, and determine whether satisfactory progress is being made to achieve the annual goals. Make instructional decisions as needed.