

Reading Comprehension Strategies

Grades 3-8



Predict

Predicting involves making clever guesses about what might happen next in a story. By combining what you already know with clues from the text, you can anticipate upcoming events.

Strategies

- **Context Clues:** Use surrounding information to make a good guess.
- **Foreshadowing:** Look for hints about what might happen next.
- **Character Analysis:** Understand characters to predict their actions.
- **Story Structure:** Analyze the plot for clues about the future.
- **Textual Evidence:** Use quotes or text to make informed predictions.
- **Compare and Contrast:** Compare with similar stories for potential outcomes.



Connect

Make connections between what you're reading and your own life or the world around you. It helps you to find meaning and enhances your understanding of the content.

Strategies

- **Personal Reflection:** Relate the story to your own experiences.
- **Real-World Connections:** Connect the story to real-life events.
- **Text-to-Text Connections:** Relate the story to other books.
- **Text-to-World Connections:** Connect the story to broader issues.



Identify The Main Idea

The main idea is the most crucial part to understand. Identifying the main idea leads you to the essence of the story, helping you capture its core message.



Strategies

- **Key Details:** Look for important details that appear frequently throughout the story.
- **Summarizing:** Condense the story into a few sentences to capture its essence.
- **Identify the Topic:** Determine what the story is mostly about.
- **Recognizing Repeated Themes:** Identify themes or messages that occur consistently.

Inference

When you make an inference you gather clues from the story and what you already know to understand things that the author doesn't say directly. It's a bit like putting puzzle pieces together to figure out what's happening or how a character is feeling.

Strategies

- **Context Clues:** Use surrounding information to understand better.
- **Background Knowledge:** Apply what you already know.
- **Character Analysis:** Study characters' actions and feelings.
- **Identify Patterns:** Look for repeated themes or symbols.
- **Predict Outcomes:** Anticipate what might happen next.



Evaluate

When you use the evaluation strategy you develop opinions and make judgments about the story, characters or themes.

Strategies

- **Compare and Contrast:** Analyze story elements together.
- **Author's Purpose:** Consider why the author included certain things.
- **Questioning:** Ask why characters act the way they do.
- **Reflecting:** Think about how the story relates to real life.
- **Expressing Opinions:** Share your thoughts about the story.

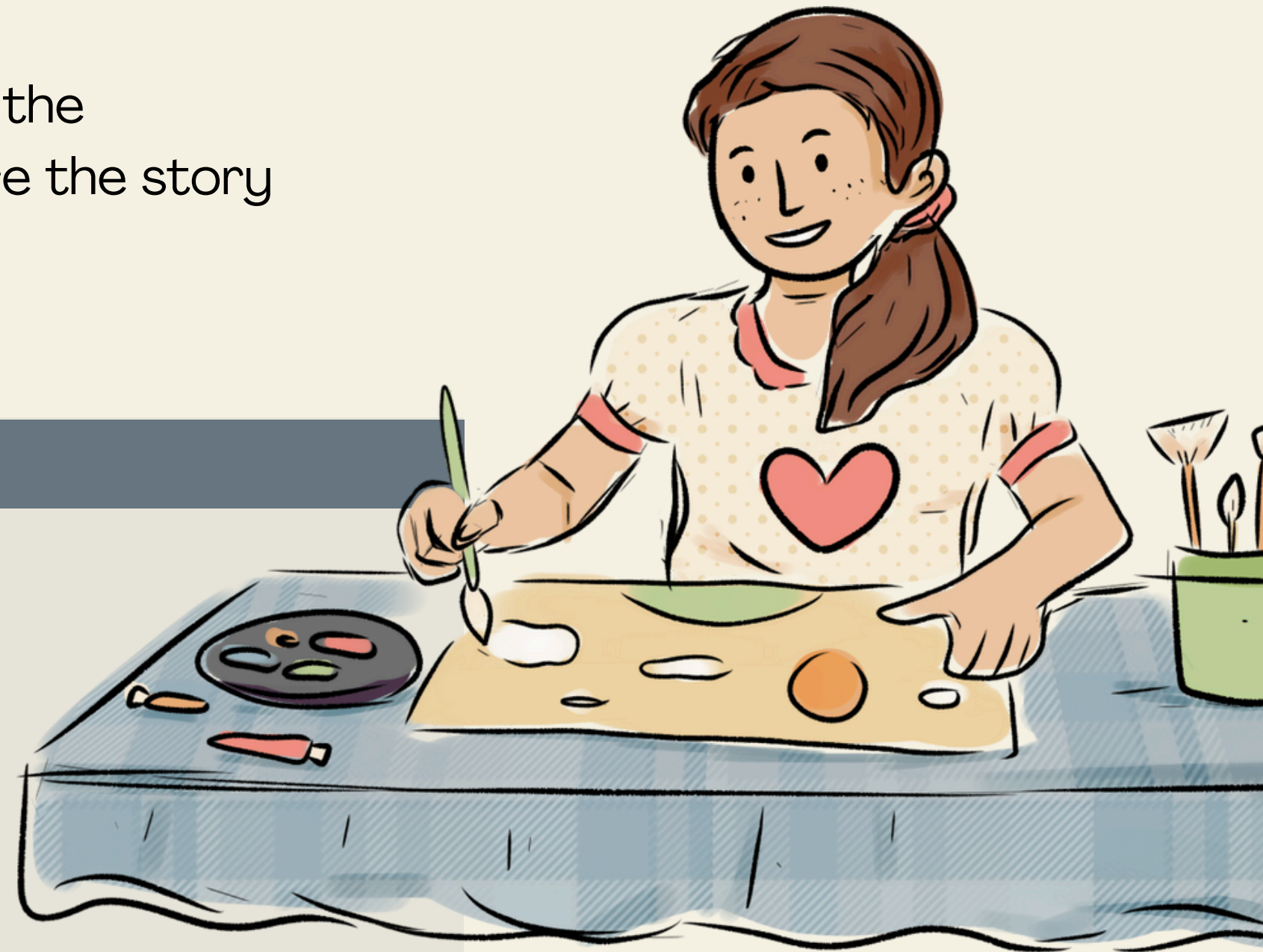


Visualize

Make stories come alive by imagining colorful pictures of the characters, places and things. Visualizing helps you picture the story as if you're watching a movie in your head.

Strategies

- **Asking Questions:** Stop and ask yourself if you're unsure.
- **Using Resources:** Look up new words or concepts.
- **Rereading:** Read confusing parts again.
- **Seeking Help:** Ask a friend or teacher for assistance.



Clarify

When you clarify you pause and ask yourself questions to make sure you understand what is happening.

Strategies

- **Descriptive Language:** Use words that paint a picture.
- **Drawing and Sketching:** Draw scenes from the story.
- **Sensory Details:** Imagine how things look, sound and feel.
- **Emotional Engagement:** Connect with the characters feelings.

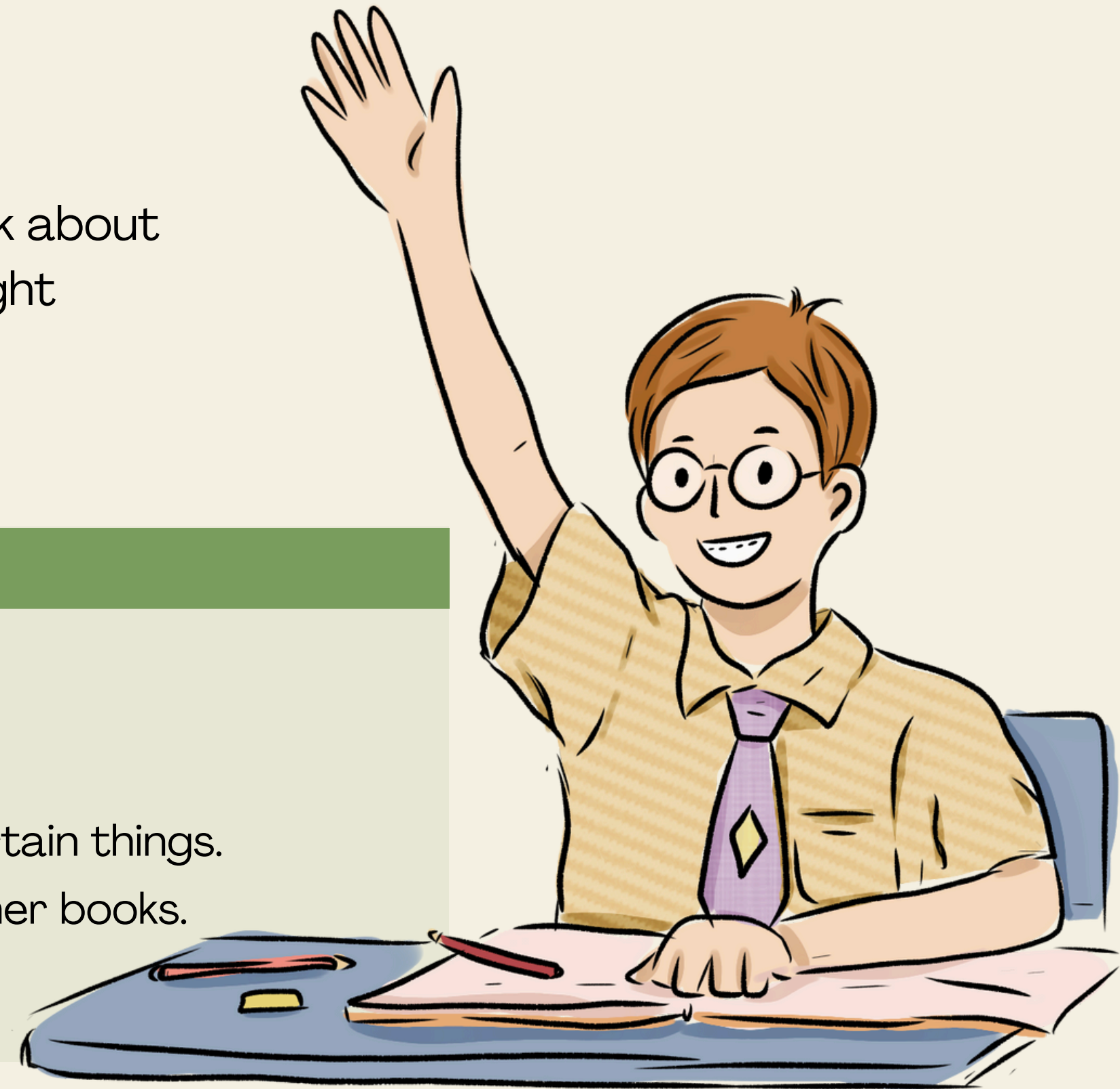


Question

Be a curious reader and ask questions as you read. Think about why the characters do what they do, how the story might surprise you and what the author wants you to learn.

Strategies

- **Use 5 W's:** Ask who, what, where, when, why.
- **Predicting:** Guess what might happen next.
- **Author's Intent:** Think about why the author included certain things.
- **Making Connections:** Relate the story to your life or other books.



Summarize

Summarizing is like retelling the most important parts in a story. It helps you to retell and remember the big ideas and important happenings.

Strategies

- **Pick Key Points:** Find the most important stuff.
- **Focus on Main Ideas:** Highlight what the story is mostly about.
- **Use Your Words:** Rewrite using your own language.
- **Keep it Short:** Make it brief and easy to understand.



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