Reciprocal Teaching Guidelines

Everyone in the classroom takes turns assuming the "teacher" role. Each of you will lead the class discussion at some point.

To organize the discussion, we'll use four comprehension strategies: summary, clarify, question, and predict.

To prepare for class discussion, you'll read the text and compose questions in each of the four areas.

SUMMARIZING

- What happened?
- What is essential to tell?
- What is the outcome?
- Who is involved?
- Why does this happen?
- What is the main point?
- What does the author want me to remember or learn from the passage?

CLARIFYING

- What was confusing?
- What words or phrases did you need more information on?
- What strategies can you use to clarify your understanding?

GENERATING QUESTIONS

Write three kinds of questions:

Questions of Fact

- Focus on details from the text.
- Ask about people, places, and things.
- Choose surface questions for others to answer.

Questions of Interpretation

- Focus on meanings that the text communicates.
- Ask about symbols, themes, and underlying messages.
- Choose deeper questions for others to answer.

Questions That Are Open Ended

- Focus on moving beyond the text.
- Ask about future effects and implications.
- Choose open-ended questions for others to answer.

PREDICTING

- What will happen next?
- Why do you think what you do?
- What effect will events in what you have read have on the story or the characters?

