Using an e-book compilation of *Westcoast Reader* stories to teach strategic reading

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The Westcoast Reader

*The Westcoast Reader* is a newspaper for beginning adult readers in British Columbia.

It is designed to help new readers develop reading skills while providing interesting and relevant information with an adult focus.

The newspaper is accompanied by Teachers’ Notes which include exercises for learners as well as suggestions and resources for teachers.
THOUSANDS TAKE PART IN TERRY FOX RUN

On Sunday, September 19, thousands of Canadians ran, jogged and walked in the second annual Terry Fox run. They did this to honor the late Terry Fox and to raise money for cancer research.

Terry Fox was a 22-year-old from Port Coquitlam, B.C. In 1977, Terry lost his right leg to cancer. He wanted to do something to raise money for cancer research. He decided to run across Canada. On April 12, 1980, Terry started his run in St. John's, Newfoundland. He ran on one good leg and one artificial leg. Canada's prime minister heard about Terry Fox's run. Many people gave money in his name.

On September 1, 1980, Terry had to end his run near Thunder Bay, Ontario. He had cancer in both lungs. He tried to return to Port Coquitlam for treatment. Across Canada, people continued to give money. One person said that Terry Fox was a hero. Somebody asked Terry how he felt to be a hero. He said, "I have just been myself it's hard for me to understand how I could be a hero." Terry raised more than $24 million dollars and received many awards before he died on June 28, 1981.

Canada's prime minister Terry. There is a M. Terry Fox in B.C., a Terry Fox stamp and a special stamp released in 2007 in Ottawa. Every September there is a Terry Fox Memorial Run.

U.S. election

Voters in the United States will elect a new president on November 4.

Barack Obama and John McCain

Barack Obama
- Obama is a Democrat.
- He is 47 years old. He was a U.S. senator for three years. If Obama is elected, he will be the first African American president of the United States.

John McCain
- McCain is a Republican.
- He is 72 years old. He has been a U.S. senator for 22 years.
- McCain was a navy pilot and fought in the Vietnam War.

接纳

October 2008

The Westcoast Reader
A newspaper for adult learners

Canadians will vote on October 14

There will be a federal election on October 14. Canadians will vote for Members of Parliament (MPs).

John McCallum

Paralympic Games

Stephanie Dixon

Paralympic Games

October 2008

Change your clocks

This year, Daylight Saving Time (DST) ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 9, in most areas of B.C.

Set your clocks and watch for one hour.

Did you know?

Before the election, five parties have MPs.

Important issues

Here are some important issues in this election:

- the economy
- the environment
- health care

Voting information on page 2
Best of The Reader

Well-loved stories as well as recipes, puzzles, and other material from past issues of *The Westcoast Reader* (1982 to 2009) have been gathered thematically into a collection of 14 e-books.

Each e-book has 8 to 10 stories, and each story has reading comprehension, grammar, and vocabulary exercises to go with it.

The Best of The Reader e-books are available in an open, downloadable format, ready for duplication and use at: [http://bestofthereader.ca/](http://bestofthereader.ca/)
## E-book titles

These are the titles of the e-books on Best of The Reader:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amazing Stories</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families</td>
<td>Canada’s Aboriginal People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping Safe</td>
<td>Easy Stories: People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Ways to Help</td>
<td>People and Jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>Readers’ Stories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Health</td>
<td>Special Days and Holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipes</td>
<td>Word Games and Puzzles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: There is also a Teachers’ Guide.
The stories in Best of The Reader are written at three reading levels. These are the symbols for each level.

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

The three levels correspond to the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB):

Level 1 is CLB 1-2

Level 2 is CLB 3-4

Level 3 is CLB 5-6
Susan Aglukark is a singer. She grew up in Nunavut. Susan sings in English and Inuktitut. She has won many awards for her music.

Did you know?
- Nunavut is a territory of Canada.
- About 80 percent of the people in Nunavut are Inuit.
- Most Inuit speak Inuktitut.

How do you say it?
- Aglukark (say: ah-GLEW-kark)
- Nunavut (say: NEW-nah-voort)
- Inuktitut (say: in-NOOK-ti-toot)
- Inuit (say: IN-yoo-it)
Dad and kids go back to school

Evan, Rae-Anne, and Nick Prince all started school in September.
Evan is seven years old.
Rae-Anne is six. They are both in elementary school.
Nick is the children’s father.
He is 29 years old. He is also in school. He is taking adult literacy classes.

Hard to go back
Nick grew up on a First Nations reserve in northern British Columbia.
He dropped out of school in Grade 8.
Nick hopes he can improve his reading. He says, “I want to be able to read with Rae-Anne and Evan.”

The Vancouver Reader 2004 • Adapted from The Vancouver Sun

www.bestofthereader.ca
Canada has 308 Members of Parliament (MPs). They form a group called the House of Commons. Voters in every province and territory elect the MPs. These men and women meet to decide about important issues in Canada. They also make new laws.

**Members of Parliament (MPs)**
MPs represent the people who live in their areas.

- Each area is called a federal electoral district. It is also called a riding or a constituency.
- Canada has 308 federal ridings.
- MPs work in their ridings for part of the year. They also work in Ottawa for part of the year.

**Election results**
Canada had a federal election on May 2, 2011. Voters elected 308 MPs. Five parties have MPs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Number of MPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDP</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloc Québécois</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>308</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Canada’s prime minister**
The Conservative party has the most MPs. It forms the government. Stephen Harper is the leader of the Conservative party. He is the prime minister of Canada.

**Who is your MP?**
Find your MP using your postal code.

1. Go to: www.parl.gc.ca
2. Choose English or French.
3. Type your postal code into the search box. Click Find.


Image: Stephen Harper, his wife Laureen, and their two children

Different types of reading
There was a census in 2006. The census counted the number of people in Canada.

Here is some information on Canada’s Aboriginal people from the 2006 census.

- Canada has about 1.7 million Aboriginal people.
- Aboriginal people in Canada speak 60 different languages.
- 54 percent of Canada’s Aboriginal people live in or near big cities.
- These three cities have the largest number of Aboriginal people:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
<td>68,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton</td>
<td>52,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>40,310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are three main groups of Aboriginal people in Canada:

- First Nations
- Métis (say: MAY-tea)
- Inuit (say: IN-yoo-il)

**First Nations**
There are more than 600 First Nations communities (sometimes called Indian bands) in Canada. For example, the Musqueam First Nation in Vancouver.

**Métis**
There are more than 300,000 Métis in Canada.
Early Métis families often mixed European and First Nations cultures. Over time, groups of Métis developed their own culture.

**Inuit**
Most Inuit in Canada live in the Far North.
Narratives

Students and teacher deliver baby

Haddy Saal-Keita was writing an exam in her English class. Suddenly, she felt sick. She says, “I raised my hand and told the teacher I did not feel well.”

Teacher was worried
Jill MacLachlan is Haddy’s teacher. She was worried. Jill knew that Haddy was pregnant.
Jill told the students to take care of Haddy. Then she went to get help. When Jill returned to the class, Haddy said, “Jill, the baby is here.”

A special delivery
Jill, a security guard, and the students helped deliver Haddy’s baby. Then they called 9-1-1. Firefighters took Haddy and her daughter to the hospital.
Haddy says, “It was a very special delivery.”

Students teased teacher
The students joked with Jill. They said, “Your exam was so hard you made Haddy go into labour.”

The Best of the Reader 4/2007 • Adapted from The Province
Legend of the dancing goats

Kaldi's goats dance and play
When Kaldi saw the goats, he was surprised. The animals were not acting in a normal way. They were dancing and playing. Then Kaldi noticed that the goats were eating the shiny red berries of a small tree.

Kaldi eats the red berries
Kaldi said, “What are these red berries that make my goats so happy? Maybe I should try them too.”

Kaldi took some berries home. The next morning, he ate the berries. After that, he felt very awake and happy.

This is the legend of how coffee was discovered.

— Fikirte Worku

Coffee

- People pick ripe red coffee berries by hand.
- Coffee beans are brown after they are roasted.
- More than 60 percent of Canadians drink coffee every day.
Poetry

Readers write about their grandmothers

I remember the smell of cherry blossoms on my grandmother's farm in Kazakhstan.
Eduard Damrin
Nanaimo

My Greek grandmother
My grandmother was born in a small town in Greece.
Her name was Litsa. My sisters and I called her Yia Yia.

Yia Yia was superstitious. She always told me to be careful on Tuesday the 13th. In Greece, many people believe it is an unlucky day.

She gave my sisters and me a clove of garlic to carry in our pockets. She said it would keep away evil.

My grandmother died almost 20 years ago, but I still think about her.

Ionna Pappas
Vancouver

Grandmother's kitchen smells like baking. She cuts a thick slice of bread for me. I eat it with honey.

Jelena Mihalic
Vancouver

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Japanese proverb</th>
<th>Italian proverb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Even monkeys fall from trees.  
*Meaning: Anyone can make a mistake.*  
— Kiriko Sato | A closed mouth catches no flies.  
*Meaning: Don’t talk too much, and you will stay out of trouble.*  
— Carmela Costa |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish proverb</th>
<th>Korean proverb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Live with wolves and you learn to howl.  
*Meaning: You become like the people you spend time with.*  
— Gael Ortiz | Even a sheet of paper seems lighter when two people lift it.  
*Meaning: Any task is easier if people work together.*  
— Hyeon Sook Park |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Afghani proverb</th>
<th>What about you?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Don’t stop a donkey that isn’t yours.  
*Meaning: Mind your own business.*  
— Khaled and Azz | Do you know a proverb?  
Write it on the lines.  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________  
________________________________________________________________________
Practical tips

Make your home safe for children

Do you have small children? Do children sometimes visit your home?
Here are some tips to make your home a safe place for children.

✓ Put covers on all electrical sockets.

✓ Use safety gates at the top and at the bottom of stairs.

✓ Keep beds and cribs away from windows.

✓ Fasten heavy furniture to the wall or floor. Children can sometimes pull over bookcases, TV sets, and dressers.

✓ Use rubber mats in the bathtub. Children can sometimes slip and fall.

✓ Lock up all medicines and household cleaners.
What causes diabetes?

1. Everyone needs food to live. Our bodies change most food into sugar. The sugar gives us energy. Sometimes our bodies cannot use the sugar from food. This problem is called diabetes.
   For example:

   Maria ate lunch a few hours ago. Her body is changing the food into sugar.

   Now Maria’s blood is carrying the sugar to her cells.

   Maria’s pancreas does not make enough insulin. This means that the sugar cannot get into her cells.

   The sugar stays in Maria’s blood. Then her blood sugar becomes too high. Maria has diabetes.

   Maria pricks her finger. She checks her blood with a meter.

   To use the sugar, the cells need insulin. Insulin helps the sugar get into the cells. Insulin is a hormone. It comes from the pancreas. The pancreas is behind the stomach.
How to read a medication label

Maritza had an ear infection. Her doctor gave her a prescription. She went to the pharmacy. She got the prescription filled. Here is the label on the ear drops.

- **prescription number**: Rx: 123456
- **name of pharmacy**: XYZ Pharmacy
  400 Maple Street
  Anywhere, BC
- **doctor’s name**: Dr. Krinke
- **patient’s name**: Maritza Smith
- **date the prescription was filled**: April 2, 2010
- **Drug Exp.**: 2011 09
- **name of drug**: 7.5 mL Garasone
- **DIN**: 00682217
- **date the drug expires**: Repeats: 0
- **how many times you can refill the prescription**

Look at the medication label above and write short answers on the lines.

1. What is the name of the drug? ______________________

2. When was the prescription filled? ______________________

3. What does DIN stand for? ______________________

4. How many times a day should Maritza use the drops? ______________________

5. How many times can the patient refill the prescription? ______________________

6. How many days should Maritza use the drops? ______________________
Cranberry pear crumble

**Step 1: Prepare the fruit**

**You need**

- **cranberries, frozen or fresh**
  - 3 cups (750 mL)
- **white sugar**
  - ½ cup (125 mL)
- **cinnamon**
  - ½ tsp (1 mL)
- **pears, cored and sliced**
  - 5 or 6

**What to do**

1. Spray a baking dish with non-stick spray.
2. In a bowl, toss the cranberries with the sugar and cinnamon.
3. Pour the cranberries into the dish. Place the sliced pears on top.

**Step 2: Prepare the topping**

**You need**

- **flour**
  - ½ cup (125 mL)
- **rolled oats**
  - ½ cup (125 mL)
- **brown sugar**
  - ½ cup (125 mL)
- **almonds, chopped**
  - ¼ cup (50 mL)
- **butter**
  - ½ cup (125 mL)

**What to do**

1. Mix together the flour, rolled oats, brown sugar, and chopped almonds.
2. Cut in the butter with a fork or a pastry blender. The mixture will be crumbly.
3. Spoon the topping over the fruit.
4. Bake at 375°F (190°C) for about 45 to 50 minutes.

*Serves 6*
Exercises and activities
Sentence order

Unscramble the words

Put the words in the right order to make sentences.

1. works centre garden at Alix a
   __________________________

2. her Alix job likes
   __________________________

3. busy is always Alix
   __________________________

Word completion

Gardening

Fill in the blanks to finish the words.

1. t________ l

2. ________ d ________ g
   ________ o ________

3. w________ r________
   ________ n

4. p________ i________ g
   ________ h________ s
Recognizing words

What's the word?
Unscramble the letters and write the words on the lines.
1. Honoré Ghedze is from ____________
   goTo
2. He came to ____________ in 2000.
   anCdaa
3. Honoré has a ____________ show.
   d0air
4. The radio show has news about ____________
   ri'Aca
5. The show also has African ____________
   ucnsi

Compound words

Two words in one
Match each word on the left with a word on the right. Then write the new word on the line.
1. home ball __________________________
2. news land __________________________
3. base coat __________________________
4. down room __________________________
5. rain paper __________________________
6. bed town __________________________

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### Wh-questions

**Answer the questions**

Write the answers on the lines.

1. Where is Mei Yu from?
   
   *She is from China.*

2. When did Mei Yu come to Canada?

3. Who does Mei Yu teach?

4. What kind of artist is Mei Yu?

---

### Categories

**Where do the words belong?**

Write these 18 words in the correct boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>Christmas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sister</td>
<td>pie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>turkey</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lunch</td>
<td>uncle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>husband</td>
<td>breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dinner</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>months</th>
<th>food</th>
<th>days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>family</td>
<td>meals</td>
<td>holidays</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Sequencing

Carve a jack-o-lantern

Here are six steps for carving a jack-o-lantern. Put them in the correct order.

____ Cut out the face with a knife.
____ Put a candle inside the pumpkin.
____ Cut out the top of the pumpkin.
____ Draw a face on the pumpkin.
____ Buy a pumpkin.
____ Take out the seeds.

Homonyms

Same word has different meanings

Sometimes a word can have different meanings. For example:
1. Children can trip on long costumes.
2. Ana took a trip to Mexico.

Here are some words that can have more than one meaning. Match each word to one of its meanings.

__ 1. tip a. the sound a bell makes
__ 2. test b. a large stone
__ 3. watch c. to teach
__ 4. ring d. a clock you wear on your wrist
__ 5. train e. a useful idea or suggestion
__ 6. rock f. an exam

Do you know other meanings for these words?
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Many rivers in Egypt flooded in 2004.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Flood waters swept a group of hippos down a river into the ocean.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. One of the hippos lost his father and got stuck near the shore.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Many people helped to save the baby hippo.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. They named the hippo Owen and took him to a wildlife park.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. People at the park put Owen in an area with some tortoises.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Owen walked over to a tortoise and stood under him.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. At first, the tortoise did not like Owen.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. But soon Owen and the tortoise were together all the time.</td>
<td>T  F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Finish the chart

Write the singular or plural for each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. moose</td>
<td>moose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>beavers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. mouse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. bird</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>sheep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. tiger</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. goose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8. fox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>deer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. salmon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. monkey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>wolves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. cow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. calf</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Irregular plurals
Recalling details

Is it a, b, or c?

Circle a, b, or c to finish the sentences.

1. Logan Jack was riding _____ in the mountains in December 2008.
   a. his horse  
   b. his snowmobile  
   c. his bike

2. Logan found _____ trapped in the snow.
   a. two cows  
   b. three horses  
   c. two horses

3. People in Logan’s town decided _____ the horses.
   a. to leave  
   b. to try to save  
   c. to ride

4. Volunteers _____ to get the horses out.
   a. dug a trench  
   b. hired a helicopter  
   c. built a road

5. _____ the trench was finished.
   a. In two days,  
   b. On January 15,  
   c. After a week,

6. The horses walked through the trench and _____.
   a. onto a logging road  
   b. into a nearby farm  
   c. into a truck

Vocabulary building

Word groups

Read each pair of words and think about how they are alike. Write one word from the box that best finishes the word group.

1. farm, pasture, ____________  
2. ice, snow, ____________  
3. trench, ditch, ____________  
4. surprised, amazed, ____________

5. road, path, ____________  
6. save, liberate, ____________  
7. horse, mule, ____________  
8. led, steered, ____________

guided, canal, sleet, rescue
shocked, burro, barn, highway
Crosswords

Crossword: Things to do in the summer

Across

3. Play ______

6. Paddle a ______

7. Go for a ______

8. Sleep in a ______

Down

1. Have a ______

2. Plant some ______

4. Catch a ______

5. Fly a ______
Crossword: Diabetes

**Across**
1. Our bodies change most food into _______.
5. Some _______ get diabetes while they are pregnant.
6. Our bodies need a hormone called _______.
7. Most people with diabetes have _______ 2 diabetes.
9. People with diabetes check their blood with a _______.

**Down**
2. Diabetes can _______ a person’s eyes.
3. Diabetes is a serious _______.
4. A _______ test can show if you have diabetes.
8. There are _______ types of diabetes.

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Find the words: Sounds

Circle the correct answers. Then find the words in the puzzle.

1. Cows __.
   a. chirp
   b. moo

2. Keys __.
   a. jingle
   b. honk

3. Dogs __.
   a. moo
   b. bark

4. Kettles __.
   a. jingle
   b. whistle

5. Bees __.
   a. buzz
   b. bark

6. Owls __.
   a. moo
   b. hoot

7. Frogs __.
   a. croak
   b. meow

8. Clocks __.
   a. honk
   b. tick

9. Mice __.
   a. squeak
   b. whistle

10. Lions __.
    a. bark
    b. roar

11. Cats __.
    a. meow
    b. tick

12. Ducks __.
    a. moo
    b. quack

13. Horns __.
    a. honk
    b. tick

14. Pigs __.
    a. oink
    b. hiss

15. Balloons __.
    a. bleep
    b. pop

16. Turkeys __.
    a. gobble
    b. ping

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Write a postcard

Finish the postcard

Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

Dear Magda,

I'm having a ________________ time here in Victoria.
The weather is ________________ and ________________.

Tomorrow we are going to ________________ Butchart Gardens.
Haruka says the ________________, there are beautiful.

See you on ________________.

Love,

Yumi

warm   roses   Sunday   wonderful   visit   sunny

Write a postcard to a friend

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### Traditions

Many people have special traditions for holidays and celebrations. Traditions include customs or special ways of doing things.

**Match the tradition with the holiday or celebration.**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Lunar New Year</td>
<td>a. wear a red poppy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Thanksgiving</td>
<td>b. pay off debts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Diwali</td>
<td>c. go trick or treating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Hanukkah</td>
<td>d. cook a turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Valentine’s Day</td>
<td>e. light small oil lamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Easter</td>
<td>f. decorate eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Halloween</td>
<td>g. play a game with a dreidel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Remembrance Day</td>
<td>h. give chocolates to someone special</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What about you?

**What is your favourite holiday? How do you celebrate?**

________________________
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Reading Strategies

Workshop time

Email me for a copy of this powerpoint:
greenwriting@gmail.com
What makes an “efficient” reader?

Ideas?
What makes an “efficient” reader?

Penny Ur, one of the speakers in Thursday’s grad student symposium, wrote in 1996 that “efficient readers”

• change reading speed
• select some features of a text and skim the rest,
• infer meaning from context,
• predict what will happen
• use background knowledge
• have a purpose for reading which motivates them
• change reading strategy depending on the text

What is our response?

Farrell (2009) states, “... less skilled readers can and should be taught how to use more effective reading strategies” (p. 33).

Farrell cites Koda (2005): “… reading strategy training aims at improving the performance of struggling readers through explicit, step-by-step demonstrations of good reading behaviors that include instruction in metacognitive strategies” (p. 34).
What is our response?

Brown, Armbruster, & Baker (1986) note,

“Cognitive psychologists have shown in their research that students learn new strategies ... most effectively when they are consciously aware of what they are doing (as cited in Mikulecky, 2008, p. 2).
## Reading Strategies

(Farrell, 2009, p. 35; Mikulecky, 2008, p. 6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before</th>
<th>During</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-Predicting</td>
<td>-Identifying main ideas and supporting details</td>
<td>-Paraphrasing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Previewing</td>
<td>-Locating topic sentences</td>
<td>-Retelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Specifying purpose for reading</td>
<td>-Identifying signal words</td>
<td>-Summarizing</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Story mapping</td>
<td>-Inferring the main idea</td>
<td>-Drawing conclusions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Questionning</td>
<td>-Linking pronouns with nouns</td>
<td>-Visualizing</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Skimming</td>
<td>-Inferences</td>
<td>-Reading critically—fact vs opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Scanning</td>
<td></td>
<td>-Identifying bias</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Steps to Teaching a Reading Strategy

1. METACOGNITIVE
   • Explain WHAT the strategy is
   • Explain WHY this strategy is useful
2. MODEL the strategy for the students
3. PRACTICE the strategy with the students (in pairs)
4. PRACTICE the strategy again and again

(Mikulecky, 2008, p. 6)
Metacognitive—Explain what the strategy is and why it is useful

• **Visualization**
  – Making mental images while reading
  – Improves comprehension
  – Helps readers remember what they read
Demonstration

--do pre-reading
--model strategy
--practice in pairs
Workshop Time

• Take 5 min. in your groups. Speed read your strategy and decide what it is.
  – What is this strategy?
  – Why is it useful?

  – Prepare a 1 sentence answer for each of these questions!
Workshop Time

• Look at your story.
• Plan how you will model/demonstrate your strategy to your students using this story

– In 5 min. one person from each group will come to the front and demonstrate/model your strategy for the rest of us 😊
Workers find dinosaur tracks in B.C.

In 2007, workers were building a road near the border between Alberta and British Columbia. The workers found a large number of dinosaur tracks in the rocks. Scientists studied the rocks. They said the tracks were made by giant sauropod dinosaurs about 135 million years ago.

**Sauropods were huge**
Sauropods had long necks and long, powerful tails. The dinosaurs were about 20 m long and 7 m high. They probably weighed 30 tonnes. That’s the weight of about six African elephants.

**Biggest and oldest**
Rich McCrea is a scientist. He studies dinosaurs. Rich says, “The tracks found in B.C. are the biggest ever found in Canada. They are also the oldest.”

This is an artist’s drawing of sauropod dinosaurs and their tracks.
Canada’s Aboriginal population

There was a census in 2006. The census counted the number of people in Canada. Here is some information on Canada’s Aboriginal people from the 2006 census.

- Canada has 1,172,790 Aboriginal people.
- Aboriginal people in Canada speak 60 different languages.
- 54 percent of Canada’s Aboriginal people live in or near big cities.
- These three cities have the largest number of Aboriginal people:
  - Winnipeg 68,380
  - Edmonton 52,100
  - Vancouver 40,310

There are three main groups of Aboriginal people in Canada:
- First Nations
- Métis (say: MAY-tea)
- Inuit (say: IN-yoo-i)

**First Nations**
There are more than 600 First Nations communities (sometimes called Indian bands) in Canada. For example, the Musqueam First Nation in Vancouver.

**Métis**
There are more than 300,000 Métis in Canada. Early Métis families often mixed European and First Nations cultures. Over time, groups of Métis developed their own culture.

**Inuit**
Most Inuit in Canada live in the Far North.
It’s never too late to say thank you

Remo Pastro and Walter Fabian were schoolboys in 1978. They lived in New Westminster, B.C.

Boys found tiny baby
One day, the boys were playing outside. They heard cries. They followed the cries to the porch of a vacant house. There they found a tiny baby wrapped in a sheet.

Police took baby
The boys carried the baby home. They called the police. The police took the baby to the hospital.

Couple adopted baby
There were articles about the baby in the newspaper. But the police could not find the mother or father. A young couple adopted the baby. They named him Thomas.

An important reunion
Thomas Pearson contacted the police in New Westminster in 2006. He said he wanted to find Walter and Remo. He wanted to thank the men for rescuing him.
Thomas met Walter and Remo in January 2007. He finally had a chance to say thank you.

The Restored Reader 4/2007 • Reprinted from The Province

www.bestofthereader.ca
Legend of the dancing goats

Many years ago, a goat herder named Kaldi lived in the land we now call Ethiopia.

Kaldi loses his goats
One morning, Kaldi took his goats to a field to eat grass. When he returned in the afternoon, the goats were not there. He looked everywhere. Finally, he found them.

Kaldi’s goats dance and play
When Kaldi saw the goats, he was surprised. The animals were not acting in a normal way. They were dancing and playing. Then Kaldi noticed that the goats were eating the shiny red berries of a small tree.

Kaldi eats the red berries
Kaldi said, “What are these red berries that make my goats so happy? Maybe I should try them too.”

Kaldi took some berries home. The next morning, he ate the berries. After that, he felt very awake and happy.

This is the legend of how coffee was discovered.
— Fikirte Worku

Coffee

- People pick ripe red coffee berries by hand.
- Coffee beans are brown after they are roasted.
- More than 60 percent of Canadians drink coffee every day.
Reduce your risk of getting cancer

- No one is sure what causes cancer. But here are some things people can do to reduce the chance of getting cancer.
  - Don’t smoke.
  - Get 30 minutes or more of physical activity most days.
  - Limit the amount of alcohol you drink.
  - Eat lots of fruit, vegetables, and legumes. Limit the amount of fat you eat.

- Protect yourself from the sun.
  - Limit the time you spend in the sun between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
  - Wear sunscreen with SPF 30.
  - Wear a hat with a brim.
  - Wear sunglasses with UV protection.

- Tell your doctor or dentist about any change in your body.
  - This mole is getting a lot bigger.

- Follow instructions carefully when you use hazardous materials at home or at work.

Note: Beans, peas, lentils, peanuts, and soybeans are legumes.
References

For copies of our handouts or powerpoint--

Please email us at:
Louise Green  greenwriting@gmail.com

For copies of the stories—
www.bestofthereader.ca