

What is the difference between strategies and skills?

Whenever students need to focus on **meaning** they need to be using their meta-cognitive thinking **strategies** to understand. We must teach these strategies.

Once we have taught these strategies and the students can talk about them as a reflection of their understanding, we then need to see the students using these strategies when they are reading independently. **If students use their strategies independently then comprehension will occur.**

These strategies include:

Concepts of Print

Fix up strategies

- Rereading
- Skipping the word and reading on and then reading
- Looking at the picture
- Looking at the picture and getting your mouth ready
- Using context clues to work out a word
- Chunking the word

Deep Comprehension Strategies

- Predicting
- Connecting
- Visualizing (using mental images)
- Questioning
- Inferring
- Determining importance in text
- Synthesizing

When students are responding to their reading, they use their comprehension **skills**. Students can respond in a variety of ways to what they have been reading. **We need to teach these skills as we are teaching the strategies.**

These skills include:

- Sequence
- Details
- Main Idea
- Summarize
- Draw conclusions
- Compare and Contrast
- Character Analysis
- Author's Purpose
- Fact and Opinion
- Cause and Effect
- Problem Solution