

Lesson Skill: Making predictions with nonfiction texts

Strand Reading — nonfiction

SOL K.10

1.10

2.9

Materials

- Various full-page pictures from magazines, calendars, and/or books
- Sheet of paper with a small hole cut out of it to create a window (If using the interactive whiteboard, use the spotlight tool.)
- Transparent sheet covers (optional)
- Nonfiction text related to the current unit of study

Lesson

1. Show students only a small portion of a picture by either using the spotlight tool or a small window. (If using the small window, place both the picture and window sheet into a transparent sheet cover.)
2. Ask students to describe what they see.
 - What shapes do you see?
 - What colors do you see?
 - Does anything look familiar?
 - Does anything in the spotlight or window remind you of something?
3. Ask students what they think the larger picture may be, adding that they are making a prediction by making an educated guess.
4. Show the entire picture, and ask the following questions:
 - Was the prediction correct?
 - If not, what observations mislead the prediction?
 - What clues in the spotlight or window helped with the prediction?
 - What area could have been highlighted to give more clues as to what the picture could be?
5. Repeat steps 1–4 several times with different pictures.
6. Explain to students they are going to use their prediction skills on an entire book, not just one picture. Introduce a nonfiction book by discussing the cover with students. Ask the following questions:
 - What topic do you predict is going to be discussed in this book?
 - What might be learned from reading this book?
7. Throughout the book reading, choose appropriate pages at which to stop and ask questions about what might happen next. When students respond, ask them to explain or justify their predictions.

8. At the end of the story, discuss all predictions made, especially the ones made from the cover.

Strategies for Differentiation

- In a small group setting, review making predictions by using more full-page pictures and showing only a small portion of the picture.