

## **Reading and Comprehension**

**Check the links on the school web page School Years (top tab) Reading and Comprehension (left tab).**

Throughout Term 3, student in Stage 2 and Stage 3 will be learning to independently use two routines designed to allow students to transfer their knowledge of comprehension strategies and apply them to independent-level texts in small peer groups. The two comprehension routines are:

- Literature Circles
- Reciprocal Teaching

### **Literature Circles**

Literature circles are similar to adult book clubs or book discussion groups. Generally, students choose the texts, although some teachers may decide to assign students to read certain types of literature.

As a general rule, texts chosen should provide rich content and offer opportunities for discussion and debate. Students usually read the text on their own and then meet at specified times with their literature circle group to discuss what they have read. The ways to structure this discussion vary. You can simply allow students an open discussion or pose specific discussion questions.

### **Reciprocal Teaching**

This is a technique used to develop comprehension of a text in which the teacher and students take turns leading a dialogue concerning sections of a text.

Reciprocal teaching involves four different techniques:

1. Questioning
2. Clarifying
3. Summarising
4. Predicting

The process of reciprocal teaching generally involves each student in the group taking on one of the four roles. The “questioner” begins by posing questions he or she has about the text, which should then be discussed among the group members. The “clarifier” facilitates the group discussion and guides members to look for answers in the text. The “summariser” gives a summary of the text up to that point in the reading. The “predictor” makes predictions about what he or she thinks will happen next in the text.

Kind Regards,

Mr Ross  
Classroom Teacher