



Ready Reference Form

Goal: Comprehension		Strategy: Back Up and Reread
Definition	When meaning breaks down, going back and rereading again to understand the meaning of the selection.	
Why Children Need This Strategy	Back Up and Reread is one of those consistent strategies good readers use because it works. Once readers back up and read the passage again, they usually read it more slowly, with more intention and focus, thus allowing their brain to absorb the meaning of what is read or the lack of meaning.	
Secret to Success	<p>Readers must be aware when text is not making sense, or when they are just reading the words but not thinking about what they are reading. When they are using this strategy, they may have to slow down. They always have to think about what they are reading.</p> <p>Pay attention to what is read, sometimes slowing down to read it more slowly so as to think about the meaning.</p>	
How We Teach It	<p>We are always surprised to realize how often we back up and reread as adult readers. Our favorite way to teach this strategy, like so many others, is through modeling. Each and every time we pick up a book to read to children, inevitably we reread for a variety of reasons. At first we point out to the class each time we reread and what we were thinking when we did it. Soon they are pointing it out for us! Often we have a student in the class who will be the “Back Up and Reread counter.” Each time we elicit the strategy, they quietly put up a finger. At the end of the story, they report the number of times we reread.</p> <p>“Did that make sense? What does a reader do when the text doesn’t make sense? Even when you use other strategies like Cross Checking, you also need to back up and reread.”</p> <p>“When you back up and reread, try rereading a bit more slowly. Often it can help you understand what you are reading if you slow it down.”</p>	
Troubleshooting	<p>Some children don’t want to take the time to back up and reread. They want to read quickly and move on. The more we model backing up to reread, the more children will use the strategy as well.</p> <p>For an example of this strategy, see page 38.</p>	