

THE 10

Make Predictions

Build Awareness of the Strategy

Broaden students' understanding of *Making Predictions*. Equate this strategy to what scientists do when they form hypotheses—make educated guesses based on prior information and modify the hypotheses as they test their validity. Point out the different kinds of information we can draw on to make predictions. We might think about other books by the author. We can look at the text structure and format of the book. We may draw on personal experiences and other information we know about the topic. You might also review the usefulness of examining the title, visuals, and table of contents.

Suppose you are reading a book about the auto industry. You know that the author has written other books about the lives of leaders of industry and that she has a witty style. So you might predict that this book will use humor to give details about auto industry executives. As you read, you discover that some of your predictions weren't correct—but this is an important part of the process. Key to this strategy is adjusting predictions in light of new information.

Talk Through the Strategy

Model the strategy for the selection your students are reading. Use think-alouds and invite discussion as you model what active readers do to build and deepen comprehension. You might have students list and number their predictions, then mark the text with corresponding numbers on sticky notes where their predictions are confirmed or need adjustment.

Include as many of these as apply in your modeling:

1. **Set the stage** for *Making Predictions* by recasting essential questions into predictions. Discuss how the process of confirming and revising predictions can be used to answer the questions.
2. **Model the strategy** by positing a prediction before reading, then looking together at the places in the book where it is confirmed or invalidated. Try to model both instances. Model making predictions during reading as well. Use the prompts for *Making Predictions* on the Teaching Card.
3. **Review the strategy** with a prediction based on a different type of information. For instance, if your first was based on text structure, make another based on experience.

Additional active reading techniques:

- List characteristics of the author, text structure, or genre and use the list to make predictions before reading.
- For a book that involves events, make a “storyboard” predicting what will happen. Use large sticky notes and replace them, if needed, during reading.
- Show how the features of a book can be used to make predictions.
- Read key sections of the book such as beginnings of chapters to make predictions.
- After reading, analyze the validity of the information you used to make predictions.

Independent Practice

Have students work collaboratively or independently to apply *Making Predictions* to another text. Suggest the book listed on the Teaching Card in the Read Across Texts section, or another book you or your students choose. Students might choose a book on a similar topic, by the same author, or in the same style or genre.