

How to Use this Resource Kit

Reading Strategies for Career Academies and Career-Technical Education is designed to help teachers increase learning in a subject and reading comprehension skills simultaneously. The reading-to-learn strategies presented will engage students' interest in content, help them maintain their focus, and improve their understanding and ability to apply what they read.

This kit presents the rationale, best practices, and strategies for integrating strategic reading — the reading skills and techniques that promote information literacy across all subjects and across such functional areas as study skills, test taking, and literacy for the world beyond school. Strategic reading empowers students to draw upon a repertoire of skills and strategies, which will help them to succeed in the many career and technical, academic and adult-world tasks that assume reading skills as a prerequisite.

Reading Strategies for Career Academies and Career-Technical Education includes a broad selection of the best research-based and classroom-tested comprehension strategies, applicable and adaptable to all students in all courses. Years of research on student growth, as well as teacher testimony, point out the tremendous advantages of training students in comprehension skills.

Section I – Comprehension in Context lays the foundation for strategic reading in the content areas. Chapter 1 introduces the concept of strategic reading and describes the reading requirements needed in a changing world. Chapter 2 examines the utility of matching readers with the readability levels of texts and introduces the Lexile Framework for Reading,[®] a system to measure the difficulty of many kinds of reading materials. Chapter 3 provides practical suggestions and best practices for infusing strategic reading into your classroom. Chapter 4 provides current information on assessment

data research and reading. Chapter 5 addresses the rationale for reading instruction beyond sixth grade. Chapter 6 presents a case study in teacher collaboration and literacy development.

Section II — Reading Strategies provides more than 20 of the best and most proven strategies designed to increase reading comprehension as you teach content. Each strategy includes:

- a definition
- step-by-step instructions for modeling, assisted practice, and independent practice
- suggestions for connecting reading with related writing assignments
- a sample student activity and solution
- related worksheets/teaching masters
- correlations to the International Center’s Essential Skills

Section III — Tips for Reading Specific Text contains 24 teaching masters that outline for students how to approach the reading material most common to students’ academic and home lives. The various formats include textbooks, news stories, instructions, and maps.

Several other resources are provided with this kit. The CD includes all student activities, graphic organizers, worksheets, and teaching masters from Section II and all the tips in Section III. The inside front pocket has the results of a study entitled “Lexile Analysis of Occupational Reading Materials.” The Lexile Map, a visual that places selected titles on the Lexile scale, can be found in the back pocket of the binder.

Reading instruction at the secondary level is needed now more than ever. *Reading Strategies for Career Academies and Career-Technical Education* is a practical guide, designed to help build comprehension in context and boost classroom achievement. Reading skills are critical to students’ success in your subject and in life. Can anything you do in the classroom be more important?

The CD-ROM included in this resource kit has a PowerPoint presentation with information on the Lexile Framework for Reading and how to access the reading levels of thousands of books and other services available free from MetaMetrics, creator of the Lexile Framework.
www.lexile.com

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