

ABOUT THE CONCEPTS OF COMPREHENSION[®]

Every issue of *Weekly Reader K–6* is based on the Concepts of Comprehension[®] — a research-proven framework that guides you in teaching reading comprehension skills simply, clearly and explicitly. These Concepts help children better understand what they are reading and improve skills across all grade levels—building upon students’ knowledge from previous years.

The Concepts of Comprehension was developed by a not-for-profit educational organization called the Urban Education Exchange (UEE).

Concept List and Definitions

Most Concepts are taught across all grades. A few—such as Pronoun Reference—are necessary only in early grades. Others—such as Point of View—are appropriate only for later grades.

Explicit Information is information that can be clearly found “right there” in the text.

Drawing Conclusions is when you figure out what a text means by using what you already know and information from the text.

Vocabulary in Context means figuring out the meaning of a word by looking at the words and sentences around it.

Figurative Language refers to words that mean something other than what they say.

Genre is a type of text, such as fiction or nonfiction.

Sequence is the order of events or steps in a text.

Character refers to the looks, traits, thoughts, actions, and relationships of a person or animal in a text.

Setting tells you where and when a story takes place.

Plot is the events that make up the main story of a text.

Cause & Effect: **Cause** is the reason why something happens. **Effect** is what happens as a result.

Predicting is deciding what will most likely happen next in what you are reading.

Main Idea is the big idea in a text. It tells you what the text is mostly about.

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Text Features are words and pictures that help organize and highlight information. Examples include headlines, photographs, and captions.

Classify & Categorize: **Categorize** is when you gather together information that is the same or almost the same. **Classify** is when you give that information a name.

Fact & Opinion: **Fact** is information that someone can prove true or false. **Opinion** is what someone believes about a subject.

Compare & Contrast: **Comparing** is noticing how two or more things are alike. **Contrasting** is noticing how they are different.

Pronoun Reference means connecting the pronouns in a sentence to the nouns they refer to.

Point of View is the viewpoint from which a story is told to the reader.

Voice is how an author expresses his or her personality or attitude through language.

Author's Purpose is the reason why an author has written a text for readers.

Theme is the message that an author is trying to share with the reader.

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