FOCUS THE LEARNING

Introduction: Prior knowledge helps us all of the time. When we do something for the first time, it can feel kind of hard because we don’t have much prior knowledge. After we do something several times, we have a lot of prior knowledge and it feels easier. I am thinking of riding a bike. I remember trying to learn and it wasn’t very easy. But now I have a lot of prior knowledge so it is fun instead of hard.

Think together. What are some things you have a lot of prior knowledge about? Soccer, cartoons, best pizza toppings?

Let’s use our prior knowledge to remember some of our favorite nursery rhymes and stories. I am going to start, and when you remember, join in! “Hey, diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle. The cow jumped over the ______.” You remembered. Your prior knowledge really helped. Let’s try another one.

“Once upon a time, there was a little girl named Goldilocks who went into the house of the three ________.” You have it. Your prior knowledge is ready for *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown.

INTERACTIVE READ-ALOUD

Model and Guide Practice

Look at the cover. This is a book about bedtime and saying goodnight to things in your room.

READ TO THE PAGE WITH THE COW JUMPING OVER THE MOON. Okay. Get your prior knowledge ready. “Hey, diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle. The cow jumped over the ______.” Isn’t this great. Our prior knowledge is helping us think about the picture on the wall. That isn’t just any cow. That is the cow jumping over the moon!

READ THE NEXT PAGE.

Put your heads together. Use your prior knowledge to remember the story about the Three Bears.

READ TO THE PAGE THAT SHOWS THE ENTIRE ROOM. “Goodnight room” is such a nice way to think about going to sleep, isn’t it? If I were going to use my prior knowledge here, I would think about my own bedroom and the things I could say goodnight to... Are you thinking about your room? Do you have a special stuffed animal? Or a favorite chair... maybe a pillow?

Think together.

CONTINUE TO THE END OF THE STORY TO ENJOY THE LANGUAGE.

END OF STORY REFLECTION

Our prior knowledge helps us in life and in books. Now, this story has added to your prior knowledge. Everything we learn and everything we do help our prior knowledge to get bigger and bigger. What is important is that we use what we already know. Someone who didn’t know about the Three Bears might not have noticed the picture on the wall. Aren’t you glad you were using your prior knowledge and could think about the story that made that picture special?
SHARE THE LEARNING
Focus on Prior Knowledge

Tip for Share the Reading

Read the “Goodnight” poem to the children several times while you track under the line of print. As they are ready, encourage them to join in and read or chant with you. You could dramatize by having students stand and point to or hold up the individual items as they are mentioned. You might also have the children use prior knowledge to write a new version of the poem: they could think of favorite storybook characters they remember from read-alouds and write a poem saying goodnight to their favorite characters.

EXTEND THE LEARNING

☆ Make a point to pause before reading and say: “This is a book about ________.” Let’s activate our prior knowledge and think about what we already know.

☆ In small group instruction, encourage children to make connections to prior knowledge as they preview their books.

☆ Introduce a topic and ask children to draw and write what they already know on the topic before you begin reading.

☆ Pair fiction and nonfiction titles on the same topic and explain to the children that the nonfiction titles will help them build prior knowledge for the fiction selection.

Tip for Readers Theater Script

For emergent readers, enjoy “Good Morning” as an echo poem: teacher reads and children echo. As they gain confidence, encourage them to read with partners or independently. For developing readers, after enjoying a fluent, expressive reading of the script, have them write their own versions and perform them.

ASSESS THE LEARNING

> Listen in as partners share prior knowledge with one another to see if they are focusing on the topic.

> Confer with readers during independent reading, and ask them to share prior knowledge on the topic. Assess their ability to share the information orally.

INFUSION OF FORMAL LANGUAGE

Test-style language

Goodnight Moon is told by: This story was mostly about:
A. The bears A. Pictures on the wall
B. The cow B. Kittens with yarn
C. The kitten C. The moon
D. The rabbit in the bed D. Saying goodnight to things you enjoy
Goodnight

Goodnight chairs

Goodnight clock

Goodnight windows

Goodnight books

Goodnight pencils

Goodnight pens

Goodnight crayons

Goodnight friends
“Good Morning!”
Readers Theater adaptation by Linda Hoyt

Good Morning Cow

Good Morning Frog

Good Morning Spider

Good Morning Rooster

Good Morning Animals!
Thank you for sampling this resource.

For more information or to purchase, please visit Heinemann by clicking the link below:


Use of this material is solely for individual, noncommercial use and is for informational purposes only.