



Using TRAVEL Mnemonic to Teach Reading Comprehension

Objective: To teach students to decode and identify vocabulary and build reading comprehension skills across content areas.

Setting and Materials:

Settings: Small group (5-10 students; 45-50 minutes per day); resource/special education

Materials:

- TRAVEL mnemonic cue card (see Appendix A)
- Passages with comprehension questions to practice reading comprehension

Content Taught

Students learn reading comprehension skills by using a mnemonic

Teaching Procedures

- Phase 1: provides baseline data for student performance in comprehension via pretesting
- Phase 2: Two 50 min sessions provided by the teacher
 - Explain of the importance of skills in reading comprehension
 - Provide explicit instruction (modeling, thinking aloud, student collaboration on the second session) followed by assessment of student's knowledge of the mnemonic "TRAVEL" (expectation of accuracy reciting TRAVEL was 100% in 3/5 trials)
- Phase 3: Students independently practice using the mapping strategy with TRAVEL on two below-grade level passages (teacher circulates, monitors, and provides corrective feedback as needed). Next, students practiced the the mapping strategy with TRAVEL on two passages at their grade level (teacher circulates, monitors, and provides corrective feedback as needed).
- Phase 5: posttest using the mapping strategy with TRAVEL independently on a reading passage at their grade level.

Evaluation

Student mastery on reading comprehension activities is 80% accuracy or better.

Lesson Plan Based on:

Boyle, J. R. (2011). The effects of a cognitive mapping strategy on the literal and inferential comprehension of students with mild disabilities, 19, 86-98.

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Appendix A

Research to Practice
Lesson Plan Starter

TRAVEL

1. Topic: Write the topic and circle it.
2. Read: Read a paragraph.
3. Ask: Ask what the main idea and three details are and write them down.
4. Verify: Verify the main idea by circling it and linking its details.
5. Examine: Examine the next paragraph and **Ask** and **Verify** again.
6. Link: When finished the story, link all circles.

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(Boyle, 2011)