Improve thinking to impact written responses

PRESENTER
DIDI HARRIS
dharris@smekenseducation.com

SPARK YOUR NEXT STEPS

Make the inference process concrete and visible.

Readers have conversations in their heads.

READING VOICE

visual details
word details
audio details

THINKING VOICE

It reminds me of…
This makes me think…
I'm thinking…
I'm predicting…
I'm visualizing…
I'm questioning…
This means…

READING VOICE AND THINKING VOICE

SECRET SITE RESOURCE Introduce the *Reading Voice* and *Thinking Voice.*

RELEVANT RESOURCE

Comprehension Voice Signs

Readers use both voices to make an inference.
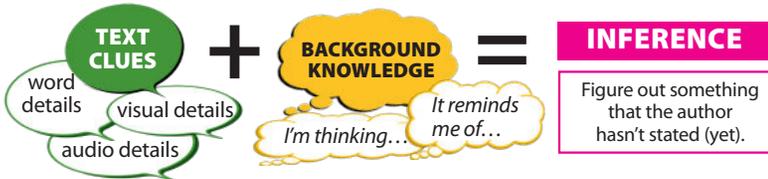
TEXT CLUES
word details
visual details
audio details

+

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE
I'm thinking…
It reminds me of…

=

INFERENCE
Figure out something that the author hasn't stated (yet).
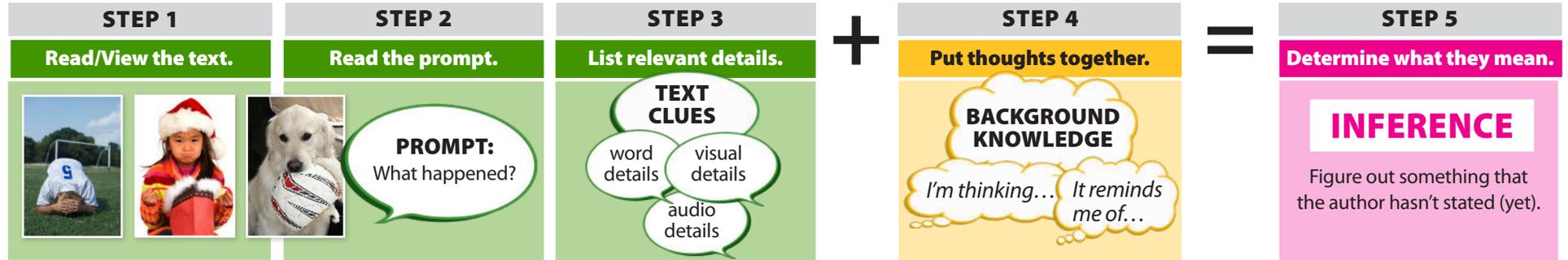

Readers make **Inferences**
says + means = new idea
1. Read the text.
2. Read the question.
3. List relevant text details.
4. Put thoughts together.
   When this happens so does…
   I'm thinking…
   These are signs of…
   This reminds me of…
5. Determine what they mean.

SECRET SITE RESOURCE

Embed the reader voices within a 5-step process.

MAKE AN INFERENCE IN 5 STEPS	
STEP 1	Read/View the text.
STEP 2	Read the question.
STEP 3	List relevant details.
STEP 4	Put thoughts together.
STEP 5	Determine what they mean.

Question Prompt
Text

READING VOICE

detail
detail
detail

THINKING VOICE

I'm thinking…
It reminds me of…

INFERENCE

Start with visuals.

"Read" visual details to infer the author or artist's message.

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5
Read/View the text.	Read the prompt.	List relevant details.	Put thoughts together.	Determine what they mean.

+ (between STEP 3 and STEP 4) **=** (between STEP 4 and STEP 5)

STEP 3 — TEXT CLUES: word details, visual details, audio details

STEP 4 — BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE: I'm thinking… / It reminds me of…

STEP 2 — PROMPT: What happened?

STEP 5 — INFERENCE: Figure out something that the author hasn't stated (yet).

MAKE AN INFERENCE IN 5 STEPS

STEP 1	Read/View the text.
STEP 2	Read the question.
STEP 3	List relevant details.
STEP 4	Put thoughts together.
STEP 5	Determine what they mean.

PROMPT: What decision did this man make?

IT WAS EITHER MY GF'S ENGAGEMENT OR A WORLD SERIES TICKET

5 STEPS TO MAKE AN INFERENCE
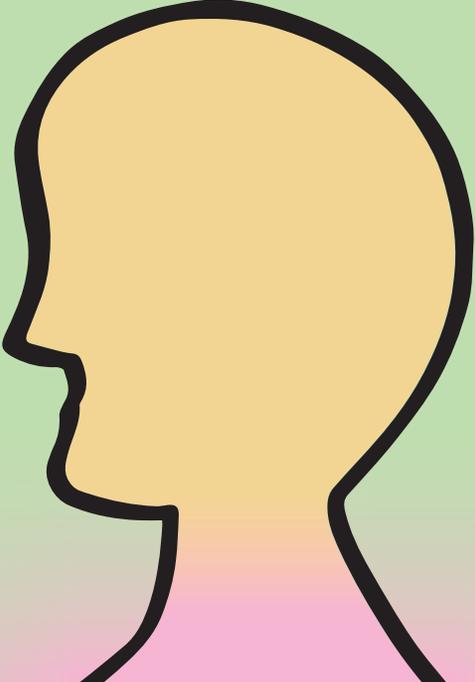
SECRET SITE RESOURCE
Follow 5 steps to make an inference.

PRINT TEXT

People crowd to enter the open door. They rush to find a seat. Many are left to stand when all the seats are taken. The vehicle jerks forward at a high velocity, causing the standers to lurch. They tighten their grips on the straps hanging from the ceiling. Although it's daytime, the view out the windows is pitch black. Only lights inside the vehicle keep it from being totally dark.
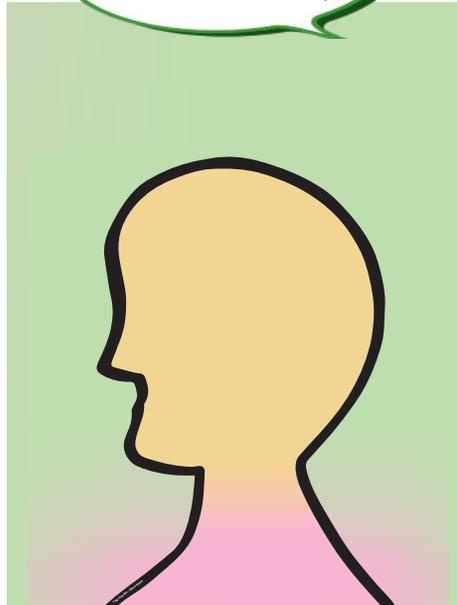
PROMPT: Where does this scene take place?
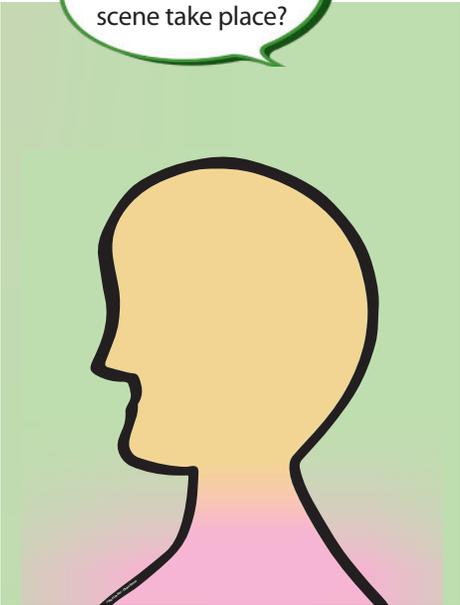
VIDEO TEXT

PROMPT: What secret does the dog want the man to keep?

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

Troubleshoot limited background knowledge.

Activate more than text-to-self connections.

These are about...   These go together.   This makes me feel...   I'm picturing

On August 4, 1961, twelve smokejumpers parachuted to a fire in Montana where strong winds were blowing, and the fire raged out of control.

Then the wind changed. The fire began to spread in the opposite direction. The smokejumpers became trapped. "The fire exploded like a blowtorch," one jumper said later.

The two crews looked for safety on a burned-out section. Some took their shirts and soaked them in water. They wrapped the wet shirts around their heads for protection.

Soon flames surrounded them. The firefighters were in deadly danger until a helicopter appeared from the smoke clouds above and carried them to safety.

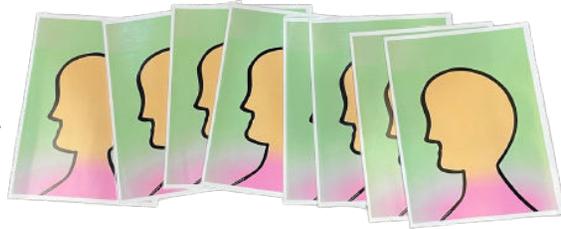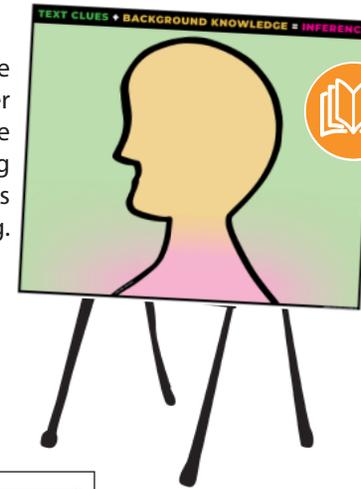**PROMPT:** Besides brave, describe another trait that smokejumpers demonstrate.
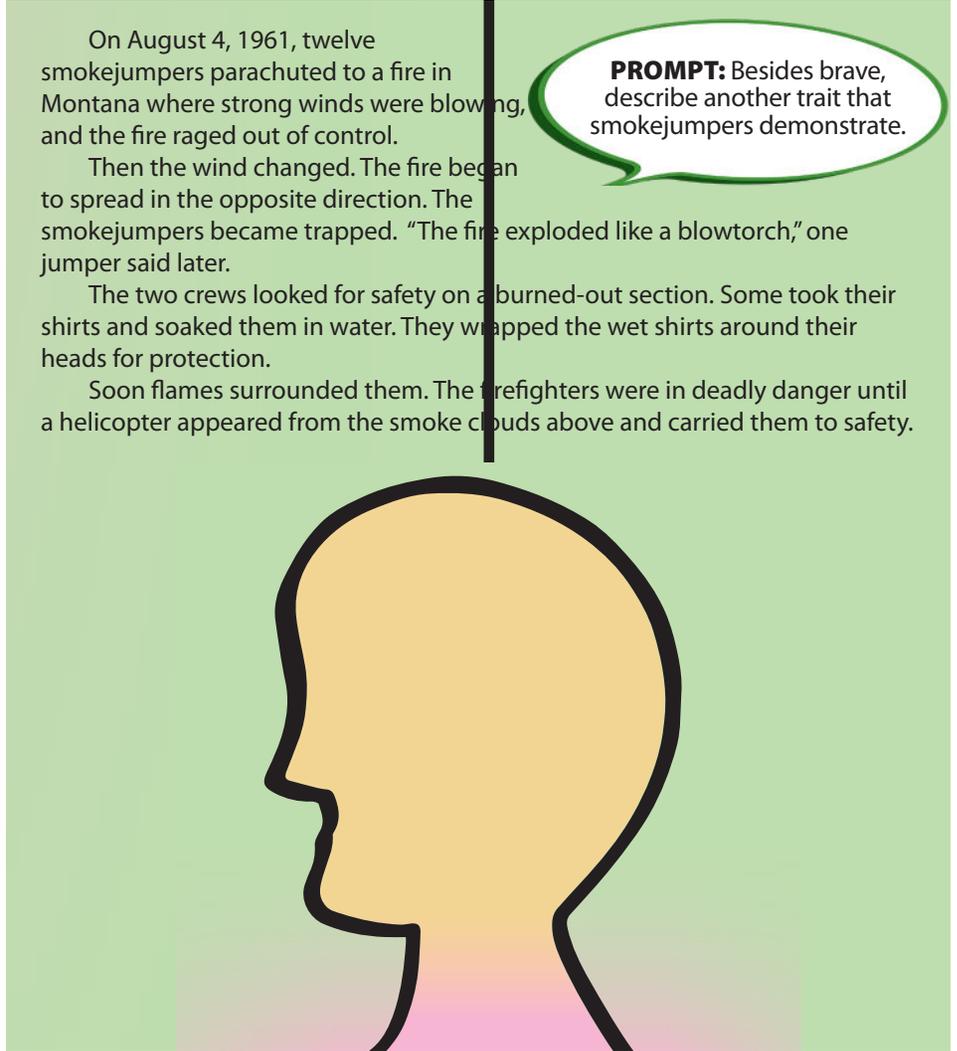
Provide tools for readers to show their work.
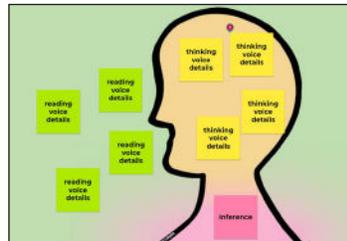
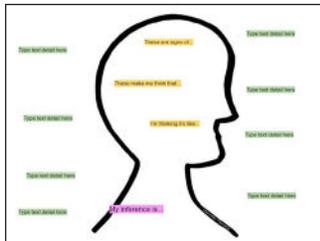Prioritize the thinking over the answer.

Laminate *Inference Silhouette Heads* to create individual whiteboards.

Utilize the oversized poster to capture thinking during whole-class reading.

RELEVANT RESOURCE

TEXT CLUES + BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE = INFERENCE

MAKE AN INFERENCE IN 5 STEPS
STEP 1 Read/View the text.
STEP 2 Read the question.
STEP 3 List relevant details.
STEP 4 Put thoughts together.
STEP 5 Determine what they mean.

STANDARDS EXPECTATIONS

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

SECRET SITE RESOURCES

Download *Inference Silhouette Heads* in various formats— PDF, Google Doc, Google Slide, & Figjam.

READERS SHOW THEIR THINKING

INFERENCE _____
EVIDENCE _____
EVIDENCE _____
EXPLANATION _____