

# Educational Psychology

## Overview Guide

# Reciprocal Reading

### What is Reciprocal Reading?

The Reciprocal Teaching Method, developed by Palincsar and Brown is an effective form of comprehension strategy instruction. Children learn to read strategically by partnering with teachers and mentors who demonstrate and make explicit the thinking processes used to construct meaning from text.

Reciprocal Reading is based on the idea that good readers:

- Question the text, then search for answers
- Clarify unknown words or concepts
- Summarize chunks of text while reading
- Make Predictions, then confirm or change predictions

### How do you deliver Reciprocal Reading?

Reciprocal Reading explicitly teaches comprehension strategies which encourage active involvement. Children are prompted to stop and think about what they have read using: questioning, predicting, clarifying and summarising techniques. The aim is to teach children to recognise and use 4 cognitive strategies to assist their comprehension of reading. The 4 strategies are:

- Generating **questions**
- **Summarising** a passage
- Trying to **clarify** word meanings or confusing parts of a text
- **Predicting** what might happen in the next paragraph or chapter.

A few things to consider:

- Answers are given orally not in writing.
- The strategies are taught as individual techniques, before beginning to apply all 4 in a group reading situation.
- Roles can then rotate each session and adults provide guidance around these areas.