

Focus Lesson Topic	Good readers recognize distracting connections.
Materials	Any text that might serve as a source for irrelevant connections
Connection	<i>Yesterday we learned about... Today we're going continue to talk about making connections, but today we're going to really think about connections that distract us or take away from our understanding of the text.</i>
Explicit Instruction	<p><i>Listen as I read and think aloud about this story. Hmm...the characters in the story are going to a Fourth of July parade. I remember last Fourth of July...my grandchildren came to visit and stayed over at my house. We saw fireworks and had a picnic.</i> (Continue to describe tangential information.)</p> <p><i>Continue reading for a bit adding more personal details. Huh? U know I don't understand a thing I just read! I was so busy thinking about this holiday that I really wasn't paying attention to the text. Having a connection to this holiday did not help my understanding. It actually distracted me from understanding. I'm going to go back in the text and find the place where I got off track. Ahhh...here it is. Now I will reread this so that I can be sure I understand what I am reading.</i> (Read a few passages and then stop. Share your understanding of the text to show how it has improved.)</p>
Guided Practice	<i>Now let's try it together. Look at the passage I have photocopied for you. Read the passage and try to think of a connection that might distract a reader. Turn and talk to your partner about why this connection does not help a reader understand the passage.</i>
Send Off [for Independent Practice]	<i>For independent reading today and anytime you are reading, I want you to stop yourself if you feel like you are making distracting connections. If you have made a distracting connection, go back and reread so that you can fix-up understanding.</i>
Group Share	Have children discuss any distracting connections they noticed in their reading.