

# Focus Lesson Planning Sheet

Focus Lesson Topic	<b>Good Readers Make Varied Connections</b>
Materials	Picture book or short text for modeling, chart paper, markers, independent reading books
Connection	<i>You know that good readers are always thinking. For the last few days, we have been reviewing how readers create sensory images as they read. You know that creating sensory images helps you to understand a text more deeply because you can really get a "picture in your mind." Today we are going to talk about another important strategy that good readers use - making connections.</i>
Explicit Instruction	<p><i>Good readers make connections to texts as they read. This means that readers are always thinking about the text and noticing when something in the text reminds them of something that they have experienced or know about. When something in the text reminds you of something that you have experienced or something that you know, this is called a connection. Making connections helps readers to get a deeper understanding of the text. Readers make different kinds of connections. Let me show you what I mean as I read this book called _____.</i></p> <p>Read aloud from selected text. Stop to think aloud and make connections. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ This part of the story reminds me of the time that I... This kind of connection is called a text-to-self connection. This connection is important because it helps me to understand how the main character must be feeling.</li> <li>➤ This part of the story reminds me of another book that I have read. [Explain similarities between books.] This kind of connection is called a text-to-text connection because the story that I am reading reminds me of another text that I have read.</li> <li>➤ This part of the story reminds me of something I heard on the news yesterday. [Explain the news story and its similarity to the events of the text being read.] This kind of connection is called a text-to-world connection because the story reminds me of something happening today.</li> </ul> <p>Record connections in a chart with the headings: Text-to-Self, Text-to-Text, Text-to-World.</p>
Guided Practice	<i>Now I would like you to try making some connections. Listen to the next few pages of _____ and see if you can make any connections. Think about the kind of connection you are making. Is it a text-to-self, text-to-text, or text-to-world connection? Turn and talk to a partner about your connections.</i>
Send Off	<i>I want you to always remember that good readers make connections. As you are reading today, take some time to stop and notice your connections.</i>
Group Share	<i>Who made a connection that they would like to share? How did your connection help you to understand the story?</i>