



Activity: Dramatic Response

Students are encouraged to visualize as they read, and then asked to dramatize their understanding of the text. The act of expressing their mental images in a tangible form enhances students' understanding of what they read. It may prompt them to re-read and clarify their interpretations as they search for details to enhance their dramatization. Students may opt for the dramatic expression of their choice: one-act play, dramatic reading, puppet show, etc.

Teaching phase	Learner behavior	Teacher behavior	Ongoing assessment
1. Demonstration <i>Teacher does, students watch/listen</i>	Pay attention. Listen actively.	Teacher dramatizes a piece of text critical to the comprehension after reading a particular key selection. Discuss key parts/words of text that helped determine the dramatization such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - character responses - behaviors/attitudes/feelings - using a variety of senses 	Do students understand the basic steps and goals of dramatization?
2. Guided practice <i>Students do, teacher helps and prompts</i>	Actively participate. Design own dramatization of text with teacher prompting and based on key word list.	Teacher assigns sections of text to small groups of children and prompts them in designing their dramatic response. Helps students with list of key words from text.	Are students in the audience able to identify key words that assist in the dramatization?
3. Independent practice <i>Students do, teacher probes</i>	Students decide sections of text to dramatize and develop their own dramatization. Perform dramatization based on text read. Support w/ text language.	Facilitate discussion following dramatization. Provide rubric to assess.	Do the dramatizations match text written? Are students in the audience able to identify key words and concepts?
4. Application <i>Students do independently</i>	Independently apply dramatization w/ various texts as needed to enhance comprehension.	Ask for volunteers to share their own dramatization. Observe and evaluate. Provide rubric for assessment.	Dramatization matches text read. Students are independently using drama to help themselves understand what they read. Self- and peer assessment.