

# Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plans and Practice Pages

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for *How I Spent My Summer Vacation* by Mark Teague

## Asking Questions Lesson Plan

**How I Spent My Summer Vacation**  
By: Mark Teague  
Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: 1

**Asking Questions**

**1 Get Ready To Read**  
Learn about the book  
Get your brain ready to read  
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**2 Learn About Comprehension Strategies**  
Think about the text you read  
When you get confused

**Summary**  
Wallace is a young boy with a wild imagination! In fact, his parents feel his imagination could use a rest so they send him out west to visit his Aunt Fern for summer vacation. Wallace recounts his summer in a back to school essay, taking readers on his adventurous vacation where he gets captured by wild cowboys! After a quick introduction he's given new clothes and spends his days learning cowboy tricks. Nothing short of a miracle will save the day when a stampede of cattle come charging and the cowboys all hide, leaving Wallace to put his new skills to the test.

**Link to What You Know**  
Have you ever had to write or give a report about what you did on summer vacation? Do you stick to the true facts or did you add any details that stretched the truth? Do you think it's alright to embellish the truth when writing a report about a trip or vacation? Why or why not?

**Important Words to Know and Understand**  
**Plains** - A large area of flat land without trees  
**Captured** - To take and hold someone as a prisoner, especially by using force

**Why Readers Ask Questions While Reading**  
Readers ask questions because it makes reading much more interesting. By asking questions readers can turn a text into a treasure hunt, where their job is to find the answers to their questions. When readers ask questions they ask about what they already know and what they want to find out.  
When you choose a book, it's important to ask questions before you read. Read the title, the blurb on the back, and look at the cover art. What are you curious about? What do you hope to learn from reading the book?  
You should also ask questions while you read. Try asking questions that help you answer who or what the book is about, where or when the story takes place.  
It's important to ask questions after you read a book. Asking questions after reading will help you decide whether or not you understood what you read. Ask questions if you are confused or are wondering about something.

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## Guided Reading Level

## Asking Questions Lesson Plan

**How I Spent My Summer Vacation**  
By: Mark Teague  
Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: 1

**Asking Questions**

**3 Ask Questions While Reading**  
Try asking questions that begin with "I wonder..." or "Why...?"  
Decide whether or not your questions

**4 Notice the Work You Did While Reading**  
Look  
Reflect  
Write

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.  
**Page 1** - The boy's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3** - The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
**Page 8** - The boy explains that while on the train, some cowboys take him from the train and run off on horses. What are you wondering about the boy and cowboys? How does your question help you as a reader?  
**Page 12** - Wallace writes his aunt to let her know he's safe and not to worry. What is one question you have about his letter?  
**Pages 23 to 24** - What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

**Time to Reflect**  
**Think** - When readers ask questions they think about what they need to know in order to truly understand a book. Because not two readers are the same, your questions will usually be different from other people who are reading the same book. What question did you ask that helped you to really understand or enjoy *How I Spent My Summer Vacation*?  
**Talk** - Tell your reading partner about the most important question you asked while reading. Explain how you answered your question and why the answer helped you.  
**Write** - Think about the questioning work you did while reading *How I Spent My Summer Vacation*. Which types of questions helped you the most? Is there anything that you are still wondering about? If so, how can you answer your question?  
**Write** - Give your Strategy Slip into your reader's notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *How I Spent My Summer Vacation*. (Remember to include examples from the book)

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Key Vocabulary

Explanation of Strategy

Activate Prior Knowledge

Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

Turn, Talk, and Reflect

**Visualizing**

**1 Get Ready To Read**  
Learn about the book  
Get your brain ready to read  
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**2 Learn About Comprehension Strategies**  
Think about the text you read  
When you get confused

**3 Visualize While Reading**  
Make the words on the page come alive in your mind.  
Use your imagination to picture the scenes, people, and actions. To make your imagination work better, use the clues in the text.

**4 Notice the Work You Did While Reading**  
Look  
Reflect  
Write

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.  
**Page 1** - Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3** - The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
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**Pages 23 to 24** - What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

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Visualizing

**Synthesizing**

**1 Get Ready To Read**  
Learn about the book  
Get your brain ready to read  
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**2 Learn About Comprehension Strategies**  
Think about the text you read  
When you get confused

**3 Synthesize While Reading**  
Put the pieces of the story together to see how they fit.  
Look for connections between different parts of the story.  
Think about how the events in the story are related to each other.

**4 Notice the Work You Did While Reading**  
Look  
Reflect  
Write

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.  
**Page 1** - Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3** - The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
**Page 8** - The boy explains that while on the train, some cowboys take him from the train and run off on horses. What are you wondering about the boy and cowboys? How does your question help you as a reader?  
**Page 12** - Wallace writes his aunt to let her know he's safe and not to worry. What is one question you have about his letter?  
**Pages 23 to 24** - What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

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Synthesizing

**Understanding Text Structure**

**1 Get Ready To Read**  
Learn about the book  
Get your brain ready to read  
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**2 Learn About Comprehension Strategies**  
Think about the text you read  
When you get confused

**3 Understand Text Structure While Reading**  
Notice how the author organizes the text.  
Look for clues that tell you how the text is organized.  
Think about how the author uses different parts of the text to help you understand the story.

**4 Notice the Work You Did While Reading**  
Look  
Reflect  
Write

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.  
**Page 1** - Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3** - The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
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**Pages 23 to 24** - What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

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Understanding Text Structure

**Determining Importance**

**1 Get Ready To Read**  
Learn about the book  
Get your brain ready to read  
Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**2 Learn About Comprehension Strategies**  
Think about the text you read  
When you get confused

**3 Determine Importance While Reading**  
Notice what is most important in the text.  
Look for clues that tell you what is important.  
Think about how the author uses different parts of the text to help you understand the story.

**4 Notice the Work You Did While Reading**  
Look  
Reflect  
Write

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.  
**Page 1** - Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
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Determining Importance

**Answer Key for Asking Questions with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Your Turn to Practice Asking Questions with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Page 1:** The boy's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3:** The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
**Page 8:** The boy explains that while on the train, some cowboys take him from the train and run off on horses. What are you wondering about the boy and cowboys? How does your question help you as a reader?  
**Page 12:** Wallace writes his aunt to let her know he's safe and not to worry. What is one question you have about his letter?  
**Pages 23 to 24:** What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

**Answer Key for Determining Importance with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Your Turn to Practice Determining Importance with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Page 1:** Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3:** The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
**Page 8:** The boy explains that while on the train, some cowboys take him from the train and run off on horses. What are you wondering about the boy and cowboys? How does your question help you as a reader?  
**Page 12:** Wallace writes his aunt to let her know he's safe and not to worry. What is one question you have about his letter?  
**Pages 23 to 24:** What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

**Answer Key for Synthesizing with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Your Turn to Practice Synthesizing with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Page 1:** Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3:** The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
**Page 8:** The boy explains that while on the train, some cowboys take him from the train and run off on horses. What are you wondering about the boy and cowboys? How does your question help you as a reader?  
**Page 12:** Wallace writes his aunt to let her know he's safe and not to worry. What is one question you have about his letter?  
**Pages 23 to 24:** What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

**Answer Key for Understanding Text Structure with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Your Turn to Practice Understanding Text Structure with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Page 1:** Wallace's parents told him that his imagination is getting too wild. What things does that make you wonder about the boy?  
**Page 3:** The boy says his parents put him on a westbound train. What are you wondering based on this information? How will the answer to your question help you understand the story?  
**Page 8:** The boy explains that while on the train, some cowboys take him from the train and run off on horses. What are you wondering about the boy and cowboys? How does your question help you as a reader?  
**Page 12:** Wallace writes his aunt to let her know he's safe and not to worry. What is one question you have about his letter?  
**Pages 23 to 24:** What questions do you have as you look at the picture on these pages? Do your questions help you to better understand the story?

**Answer Key for Visualizing with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Your Turn to Practice Visualizing with How I Spent My Summer Vacation**

**Pages 13 to 14:** Wallace is learning to ride with his new cowboy clothes. Which words help you see it in your mind?  
**Pages 21 to 22:** Wallace is learning to ride. On these pages he's riding about the behavior of Aunt Fern. Which words help you visualize the scene?  
**Does the illustration match your visualization?**  
Why or why not?

Practice Pages and Answer Keys

# Writing About Reading with Optional CCSS Alignment

Strategy and Text Based Reader's Response Prompt

Common Core State Standard

"I Can" Statement

Common Core Free Option

Reading Response Prompts for Each Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plan

## 5 Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizers

**Visualizing**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

What page did you use to practice visualizing?  
Draw a picture of your mental image in the space below.

Write down some of the words that the author used to help you make this picture in your mind.

Show your picture to someone. Make sure that you draw all of the words that helped you visualize.

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut out the cutlines.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Visualizing

**Determining Importance**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Think about the book. Write all of the important information in the thought bubble below.

Now determine 3 BIG ideas, events, words, or facts that are important to you. Draw a picture to illustrate the most important parts of your book.

#1 \_\_\_\_\_

#2 \_\_\_\_\_

#3 \_\_\_\_\_

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut out the cutlines.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Determining Importance

**Asking Questions**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Question Sentence Starter  
I wonder... Why don't... How does...  
I am confused about... I am curious about...

Question	Answer
Question	Answer
Question	Answer

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut out the cutlines.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Asking Questions

**Understanding Text Structure**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Text Structure	Where the Text Structure was Used	How the Text Structure Helped Me
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____

Text Structure: You might see White headings  
Description: Compare and Contrast    Sequence: Problem and Solution    Cause and Effect

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut out the cutlines.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Understanding Text Structure

**Synthesizing**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

At first I was thinking...	My new thinking is...	I used to think...
Because...	Because...	But now I think...
		Because...
My new thinking is...	Now I understand...	After thinking about...
Because...	Because...	I conclude...
		Because...

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut out the cutlines.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Synthesizing