

COBY'S CORNER



RBS of the Month

April 29, 2008

Volume 5 Issue 1

Chunking

Huh? Chunking is a literacy strategy that involves breaking up text into “chunks” and then developing summaries or conclusions about that chunk. It’s a way to tackle difficult text that contains a lot of information, and it helps you to see “the big picture” of a passage.

How? You, a small group, or the teacher will break up the text into digestible chunks. Each group or individual will read the chunk out loud. When done reading the chunk, you will be asked to either summarize the passage, answer an over-arching question, take notes on the passage, or connect it to something else you’ve learned.

Example: Below is a sample of how you might chunk a passage from your textbook.

Assignment: You will read (in chunks, of course!) pp. 94-97 in your textbook and respond to these questions/ prompts at the end of each chunk. Finally, you will piece all the chunks together into one Super Chunk.

1) Setting the Stage-New Leaders Restore Order

Why is 1450-1550 known as the “Warring States” period? Describe it.

2) New Leaders Restore Order

Describe how the motto “rule the empire by force” affected Japan and the rest of Asia.

Putting it all together: a) How did the Japanese perceive Europeans; b) How did the two cultures interact; and c) What changes or consequences resulted from these interactions?

The words in bold are the headings in your textbook.

The words in **italics** are a teacher-provided prompt. Sometimes you will be given these; other times you will be asked to take notes on a chunk

I know that most of us have used this strategy before, but have you used it in this way?? This activity was taken from a 10th grade teacher’s plans.

Issue Features

✓ RBS of the Month

✓ Find Wiley

✓ New Materials

✓ Teacher

Celebrations



REMEMBER.....I’ll model these strategies for you, just let me know when!!

**HAPPY (late)
SECRETARY’S
DAY**

Find Wiley

Clue #1

What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps.

GOOD LUCK!!!!!!!



Oh where, oh where, has our dear Wiley gone?

Oh where, oh where, can he be???

Zach Wallace knows where he is!! Now let's see if you can figure it out.

Materials

Well, it's getting that time of year when we start planning for next year. I have some Instructional Supply money left and I would like to spend it on materials that you may need at the beginning of next year. Please email me any needs that you have ASAP.

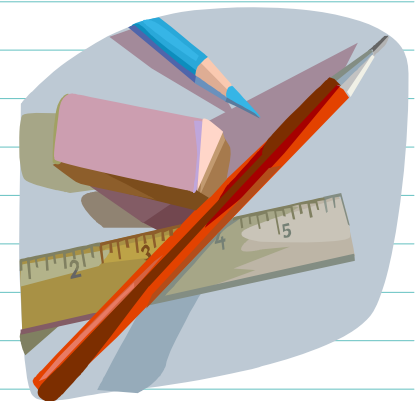
Also, next school year you will have access to at least 5 iPods which will have books recorded on them. If you have any books that you would like recorded, let me know.

Available for checkout

- ◆ 2 rolling easels (Coach Hampton has checked out one of these)
- ◆ many sets of books for literacy circles
- ◆ clip boards
- ◆ small whiteboards
- ◆ picture books
- ◆ chart paper
- ◆ teacher resource books
- ◆ timers

Consumable Supplies

- ◆ post-it notes
- ◆ index cards
- ◆ sentence strips
- ◆ post-it flags to mark the text



Teacher Celebrations



If you haven't been by **Coach Hampton's** or **Mrs. Stanfield's** rooms lately, you need to. They are using their kidney tables to pull up at-risk students. Please talk to them about this.

to invite me in. Now that things are a little back to normal, please let me come into your classroom and model some strategies or do some side-by-side teaching.

books for the following people:

- Dandridge; B. Reeves; Stanfield; Kutner;**
- Little; A. Reeves;**
- Hudgins; Boyles; Dobbs;**
- Teall; Lee; Moon;**
- Hampton; Zimmer;**
- Nunnelley**

Well, **Mrs. Womac** is at it again. Now her classes are participating in many Lit. Circles. You have to plan and be very organized to make this happen in your classroom, and Mrs. Womac is doing a great job!!! If you get a chance, talk to her about what works and doesn't work.

Walk-Throughs

If you have not had a chance to participate in a walk-through, please let me know. We definitely want everyone to do this before the year is over!!

BOOK STUDY

Also, **Ms. White** and her students have been very busy creating preposition people. Go through the 6th grade hallway and take a look!!!

Our book study on Do You Know Enough About Me to Teach Me? is quickly approaching. The books should be here by the end of this week. It is only 80 pages, so it shouldn't take us that long to read. I ordered

I know that with testing and all the activities that we've been involved with lately, you haven't had time

