

READING in the middle



A MONTHLY UPDATE FROM YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL
READING INTERVENTIONISTS

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Say What?

In October, we continued to mark the text, but we focused more on asking questions while we read in order to gain a deeper meaning. We discussed what to do when an answer can't be found in the text and how lots of times, we are drawn to make inferences and discuss questions with others to determine answers. We focused specifically on the three types of questions:

- Answer is right there in the text or easily looked up
- Answer requires us to use what we already know as well as what is in the text
- There is no one answer; we must use what we know from the text, our brains and our hearts to synthesize information, such as determining the theme, judging a character's actions, etc.

The benefits of asking questions include:

- Builds interest to want to read on in order to find the answers
- Helps us in making predictions
- Requires us to think more deeply to figure out the answer
- Helps us read between the lines
- Encourages us to go beyond the text to learn more

TAKE A PEEK!

SAY WHAT?- 1 & 2

HALLOWEEN
TRADITIONS - 2

AVID IN INTERVENTION
- 2



Say What? Continued

According to the article, *Seven Strategies to Teach Students Text Comprehension*, “by generating questions, students become aware of whether they can answer the questions and if they understand what they are reading. Students learn to ask themselves questions that require them to combine information from different segments of text. For example, students can be taught to ask main idea questions that relate to important information in a text.”

While reading with your child, do ask questions orally to help practice and model this strategy. You may be surprised by the level of discussion you end up having.

Halloween Traditions

At the end of the month, we dove into the history of Halloween, and students learned the importance of merging their own thinking with new learning.

Many students had the background knowledge of the date, traditions, costumes, and foods, but they were unaware of the history behind it.

As we read, students merged their thinking and new learning to understand how traditions such as carving pumpkins, dressing up, and trick or treating came to be.

They really enjoyed sharing stories and reacting to the details in the text. They may have even come home and told you they wanted to go “mumming” on Halloween! ❓❓
(Mumming was the ancient form of trick or treating, where people were given food and drink rather than candy).

AVID in Intervention

We are continuing to incorporate AVID strategies into our lessons. AVID is an acronym for Advancement via Individual Determination. According to AVID, their strategies are “based on best teaching practices in writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading, and it is supported by state and national content standards.”

