

Creating Mental Images Cognitive Strategy Routine Plan



Step 1
Use a real-world
example to create a context

Anchor Lesson:

"How many of you like popcorn? Have you made popcorn before? Let's use all of our sensed to create a mental image of making microwave popcorn. Use your imaginations along with me as I describe what is happening."

"Picture yourself unwrapping the popcorn bag. Hear the plastic wrap crunch as you tear it open and pull it away from the popcorn bag. Can you imagine how it sounds and feels when you crumple it up and throw it away? See the bag all folded up? Be sure to unfold it. There is writing on the bag. Push the big button to open the microwave door and put the bag inside. Make sure that the bag is right side up! Shut the door, not too hard, but hard enough to hear it click closed. Look at all of the buttons. Which one says popcorn on it? There it is! Push the popcorn button to start the microwave. Ewwww... the button is all greasy from the last time you made popcorn. Can you hear the microwave humming? The light is on the inside the microwave and you can see the bag going around and around. The edges of the bag kind of fold up toward the top of the microwave. Oh! There's the first pop....then another and another. The popping gets faster and faster. Mmmmmm, smell that fresh popcorn smell. I'm getting kind of excited, I can hardly wait! The popping is even faster now and you can see the bag growing fat in the microwave. The popping begins to slow-it's almost done. Beep, Beep, beep. The microwave is signaling that it is time to open the door. Push the button to open the door. Pick the bag up, but just by the corner-careful it's hot!! Carefully hold the bag by the edges and slowly pull the top of the bag apart. See the steam as it escapes? It smells delicious! Reach in and take out one small, warm, yellow piece of buttery popcorn. Pop it into your mouth. The buttery flavor melts on your fongue. Yum!

Step 2 Give the Strategy a Name

"Today we are going to learn a strategy called Creating Mental Images"

Step 3

Define Strategy, how and when it is used, and how it helps with Reading.

Strategy Definition

"An image is a picture or a sound, a feeling in your heart, or even something you smell or almost touch in your mind when you read."

How it helps us understand

"Images help us remember, enjoy, and understand the text better."



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Step 4	Provide students with a hand motion that signals "Creating Mental Images" Display strategy poster in the classroom.
Give students touchstones	Touchstones: Model hand gesture, explain strategy poster and refer to the anchor lesson.
	"Remember when we used our imagination to make microwave popcorn? We used all of our senses to create an image in our mind. We even used our emotions to imagine how we felt while waiting for it to cook! When we did that, we were Creating Mental Images. We create mental images when we read too. You will know when I am Creating Mental Images while reading because I will show you this hand signal. Each finger represents one of the five senses and the palm is my emotions. When I touch my thumb to my head with my hand open it shows that I am Creating Mental Images while reading. Look at our strategy poster. Our friend is using all five senses to create a mental image."
Step 5 Think Aloud	Using strategy in a variety of context. Plan a great CPQ for the reading.
	Plan 3 places to MODEL the strategy through think aloud. Write your think aloud on sticky notes and place them in the text where you will stop to share your thinking. Remember: Think-Alouds are NOT questions for students.
Step 6 Engage	Engage students by providing opportunities for them to share their thinking during reading.
	 Plan at least one place to engage students with Think, Turn, and Talk. Write your question on a sticky note and place it directly on the text.
Step 7 – 8 Independent Practice	To be completed over time as students become familiar with the strategy.