MCED00253_0000[1]**Be Prepared — Not Scared!**

1. Number the paragraphs. Identify the type of passage: Informational or Literary text.
2. Read and mark all of the text features in the text such as: title, headings, subheadings, italicized or bolded text. Review key vocabulary (bold, italics, at the bottom of the page, etc). Study pictures and/or charts and the corresponding captions. If information about the author is made available, read as well. Get the students to circle these text features.
3. Identify text organization-How text features help organize the selection. Explain how subheadings help organize the selection.
4. Previewing the text:
   1. **Informational**: Pose a question from the title. OR
   2. **Literary**: Make a prediction about the subject of the selection. Write the question or the prediction next to the title.
5. Read the question stems (not questions and their answers—only question stems) and instruct the kids to circle key words in each question. Key words can be vocabulary, names, dates, etc., that signal things to look for in the selection. Key words can also be author’s purpose, main idea, author’s opinion, attitude, etc. Be sure the kids circle these words. The process of circling key words helps them remember.
6. Crack the CODE- Assign benchmark code to each question.
7. As students read, emphasize key words. Tell the students when they run across underlined key words in the questions to speak up. As they find answers in the reading, get students to mark their texts by underlining the answers. (Tell students NOT to stop to answer the question. Stopping to answer each question will take away from the momentum they build as readers.)
8. Underlining facts and details FIRST and then develop the Main Idea.
9. Sometimes the main idea of a selection is stated in the first few paragraphs. Tell kids to look for the main idea in the opening paragraphs.
10. Keep in mind that the main idea should directly related to the title and the predictions they made based on the preview of the selection. If the students and you locate a directly stated main idea, be sure to underline it. That way it will be easy to answer any kind of main idea questions.
11. Create questions from each subheading. Answer question after reading each subheading.
12. Summarize. Ask kids to briefly summarize what they have read so far under each subheading. Marginal note taking.
13. Answer questions together. Refer back to section to look for facts and details to answer the question. Talk to your partners/White boards (Boards up!)
14. Read all possible answers and discuss if it is a reasonable choice or not. Decide if each answer is a “yes”, “no”, or “maybe” for a possible answer. Process of elimination.
15. Formulate the answer in your head FIRST, refer back to text when necessary and then choose the one that most closely matches the one your thinking.
16. Get them to find the answers in the text. (Write paragraph #)
17. Closure Activity: What was the first step we took to analyze the article? Summarize and Review strategies.