

Helicopter Parents: Reading

Activity 7: Reading for Understanding

Read “Putting Parents in Their Place” with your teacher, who will read aloud while you follow along silently. As you read, think about the predictions you made. You may notice words you worked within the previous activities. Listen to your teacher as he or she “thinks aloud” about the meaning-making strategies he or she uses to understand the article.

After you finish the article, discuss the following questions with your classmates:

1. How accurate were your predictions?
2. When you read the whole article, did anything surprise you?
3. Are there any parts of the article that you found confusing?

Activity 8: Reading for Understanding—Quickwrite

Respond to the following question:

Are educators right to be concerned about parent involvement in schools? Explain why or why not.

After you finish your quickwrite, take turns reading your response aloud to a partner. Give your partner feedback on his or her quickwrite, such as whether or not you agree with your partner’s position and any questions you have about his or her views.

Activity 10: Considering the Structure of the Text—Descriptive Outlining

Read “Putting Parents in Their Place” again, this time silently. Draw a line where you think the introduction ends. Then draw a line above where you think the conclusion begins. As you reread the article, consider not only *what* each section says, but also *how* it says it.

Now answer the following questions discussing in groups and writing down answers:

1. What does each section say? What is the content?
2. How does each section affect the reader? What is the writer trying to accomplish?
3. Which section is most developed and how?
4. Which section is least developed? Does it need more development? Explain
5. Which section is most persuasive? Least persuasive? Explain
6. From your chart of the text, what do you think is the text’s main argument? Is it explicit or implicit?