



# Beacon Media

## Supporting worldwide education

Reciprocal Reading

# Reciprocal reading

- For students at Reading Level 15 and above
- This is a bit like guided reading, but students replace the teacher as leaders for groups
- “Reciprocal” just means helping one another
- Arrange students in groups of about 6
- Choose a leader for each group, a competent reader
- Each member of the group has a copy of the same text, (at their appropriate level).

# Teacher preparation

- Make copies of the texts for the different groups.
- There are many Beacon Media reading resources, e.g. “Stories of Faith”, See the levelled reading resources
- Prepare the students by explaining the process
- Explain the meaning of *‘text’*, *‘predict’*, *‘clarify’*, *‘summarize’*

# Step 1: Predicting

- Group leader asks: “What do you think this text will be about?”
- (Students may guess by reading the title, and if there are pictures, by looking at the pictures.)

# Step 2: Reading

- The group leader says, “Let’s read the first page down to.... here.”
- The group leader points to where everyone is to stop reading. Half a page is a good amount.
- Everyone reads silently. Some student may like to ‘whisper read’.
- Students can use a ruler underneath the lines.
- When finished, they can re-read or wait quietly until everyone is finished.

# Step 3: Clarifying

- The group leader will know when everyone is finished because they can observe the progress of the rulers under the lines.
- Then the group leader says, “Does anyone have a word to clarify?”
- Anyone in the group can help assist with the meaning of certain words. If no one knows then the group leader can ask the teacher.

# Step 4: Summarizing

- The group leader says,
- “Can anyone think of a sentence that summarizes the text so far?”
- “Are there any other important facts we have learned so far?”

# Step 5: Questioning

- The group leader says, “Who can think of a question about the text, starting with *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *why*, *how*.”
- Anyone in the group, including the group leader, can ask a question for the rest of the group to answer verbally.



# Step 6: Repeat the process

- The group leader says, “Let’s read the next section down to...here.”
- Repeat the steps of clarifying, summarizing and questioning until the text is finished.

# Prepare instructions for leaders

**Make one set of instructions for each group leader:**

- 1. Predicting:** “What do you think this text is about?”
- 2. Reading:** “Everyone read down to...here.”
- 3. Clarifying:** “Does anyone have a word to clarify?”
- 4. Summarizing:** “Give me one sentence to explain what we have just read.”
- 5. Questioning:** “Can anyone think of a question starting with *who, what, when, why, how?*”

# Discussion or reflection

- How could you apply:

1. Shared reading

2. Guided reading and/or Reciprocal reading

to your classroom?

What improvements can you make to your class reading sessions?