

# **The Reading Lesson**

## **Overview**

Fine books fill children's minds with a wealth of knowledge of character and philosophy, of history and science, of humor and wit. They lead children into a wider world of wonder, beauty, delight, and adventure.

## **Literary Appreciation** - *Fostering a love of reading*

### **Attributes of Fine Literature**

- *Precise Language*: Language is direct, concrete, specific, and vivid.
- *Emotional Appeal*: Language and situations evoke sentiments (e.g., happiness, sadness, compassion).
- *Content*: Information (e.g., science, history, geography) is embedded.
- *Insight into People and Life*: Dialogue and situations enable readers to discern motives, desires and rewards or consequences of different kinds of behavior.
- *Universality*: Common traits or experiences are enjoyed by readers across time and cultures.

## **Text Structure** - *Determining author's purpose and text organization*

### **Three Basic Types of Writing**

- *Narrative*: Relates an event or tells a story.  
Purpose: To entertain and develop understanding about people and the world.  
Elements: Characters, setting, plot, point of view, theme, tone, and style.
- *Informative*: Sets forth a series of facts, propositions, or arguments in a logical sequence.  
Purpose: To inform, explain, or instruct.  
Elements: Topic, stated or implied main idea, information, and concluding sentence.
- *Informative-Narrative*: Writing that combines narrative and informative elements.  
Purpose: To inform, explain, or instruct in an interesting or personal way.  
Elements: May include characters (imaginary or real individuals), setting (imaginary or factual locations), plot, theme, prominent factual information, topic, stated or implied main idea, or thesis (multiparagraphs).

## **The Reading Lesson (cont.)**

**Comprehension** - *Using five mental actions to comprehend text*

### **Five Mental Actions**

- *Monitoring Comprehension*: Checking understanding of words, phrases, and sentences to identify unfamiliar words or concepts (active listening/reading).
- *Making Connections*: Linking stated information with information already learned to draw conclusions (infer) and elaborate.
- *Making Predictions*: Forecasting, supporting, and/or revising forecasts using stated information and information already learned.
- *Reformatting*: Reorganizing and categorizing information into new forms (e.g., lists, outlines) to use for the immediate task or to file for later use.
- *Mentally Summarizing*: Confirming or deriving the main idea using stated or inferred information and information already learned.