

REAP (Read, Encode, Annotate, Ponder)

What is it?

REAP is a strategy for helping readers read and understand a text. REAP is an acronym for *READ, ENCODE, ANNOTATE, PONDER*.

Why use it?

As students go back to the text for each stage of REAP they will consider the text from a different vantage. Each stage asks the student to analyze the text at a higher level to increase and deepen comprehension.

How Does It Work? After you have modeled and provided guided practice with this strategy, ask students to:

1. R – read on your own
2. E – encode the text by putting the gist of what you read in your own words
3. A – annotate the text by writing down the main ideas (notes, significant words, quotes) and the author’s message
4. P – ponder what you read by thinking and talking with others in order to make personal connections, develop questions about the topic, and/or connect this reading to other reading you have done

Example: Social Studies from the classroom of Christine Landaker.

REAP	
<p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <p>Title: <i>The Great Depression</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p><i>On margin: borrowing money to buy stock from your broker.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p><i>As long as the value of stock continued to rise, the buyer could sell later, pay back what he borrowed, and make a profit.</i></p> <p><i>*Some investor started to sell stock in September in fear the boom would end.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <p><i>B.B. – the problem that led to the Great Depression began to give out warning signals in the early 1920's.</i></p> <p><i>Question: Did any one think the crisis was temporary?</i></p>

See page two for blank worksheet.

Adapted from Janet Allen: *Tools for Teaching Content Literacy*, 2004

REAP

R

E

A

P

R Read the text. Jot down the title and author

E Encode the text by putting the main ideas in your own words/language

A Annotate the text by writing a statement that summarizes the important points

P Ponder the text by thinking and talking about what you learned. Ask yourself why the author wrote the text. What do you think the author hope you'll learn?