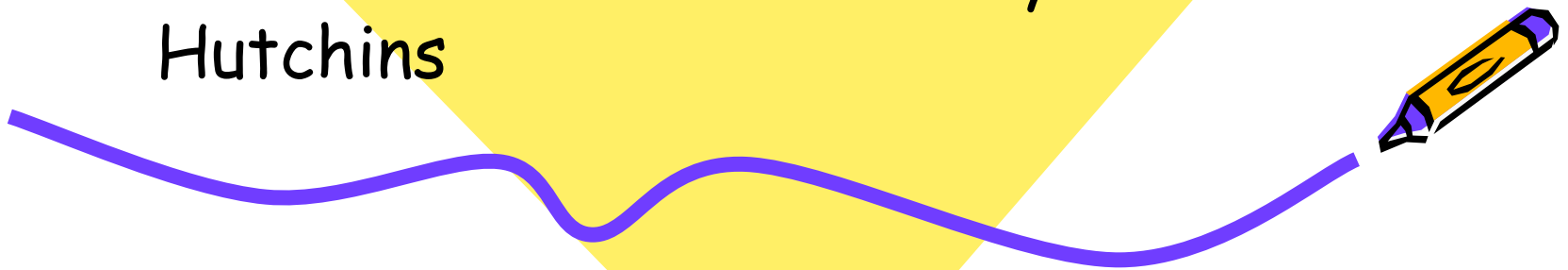
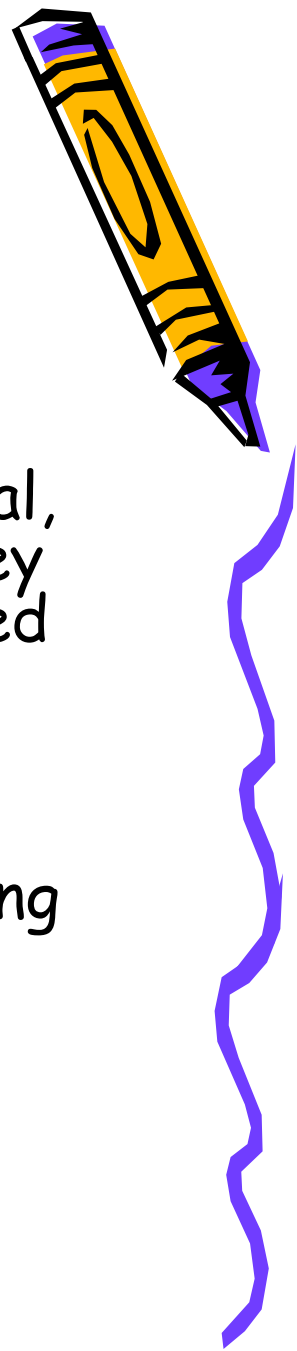




# 7 Keys to comprehension

Susan Zimmerman and Chryse  
Hutchins





# 7 Keys to Comprehension

1. Motion picture of the mind: sensory images
  - Good readers create a wide range of visual, auditory, and other sensory images as they read, and they become emotionally involved with what they read.
2. Making connections: background knowledge
  - Good readers use their relevant prior knowledge before, during and after reading to enhance their understanding of what they're reading





# 7 Keys to Comprehension

## 3. Why, what, where, who and how: questioning

- Questions indicate engagement
- Questions are fundamental to being a human being
- Questions are a key ingredient in building superb readers





# 7 Keys to Comprehension

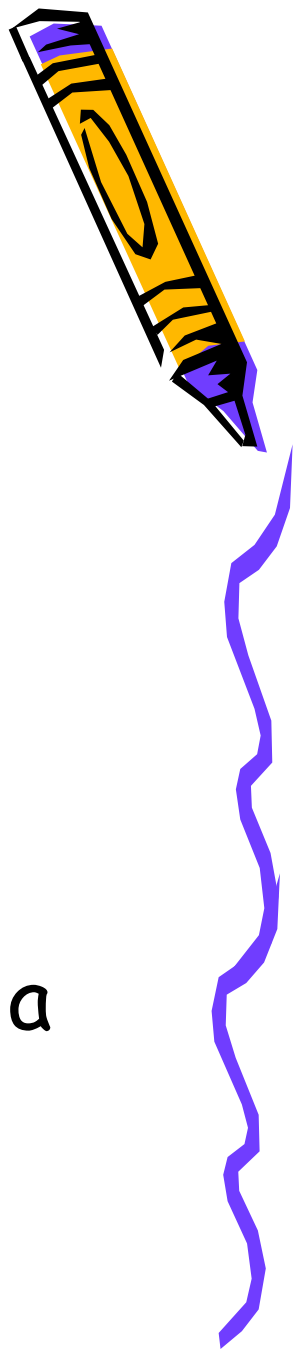
## 4. Weaving sense into words: drawing inferences

- Inferring involves forming a best guess about what the 'evidence' (words, sentences, and paragraphs) means; speculating about what's to come; and then drawing conclusions about what was read to deepen the meaning of the literal words on the page.



# By using inference you:

- Elaborate upon what you read
- Draw conclusions
- Make predictions
- Find connecting points
- Ask questions
- Personalize what you read to build a deeper meaning





# 7 Keys to Comprehension

5&6. What's important and why: determining importance and synthesizing

- An important aspect of comprehension is being able to distinguish between the nonessential information and the essential information.
- Determining importance has to do with knowing why you're reading and then making decisions about which information or ideas are most critical to understanding the overall meaning of the piece

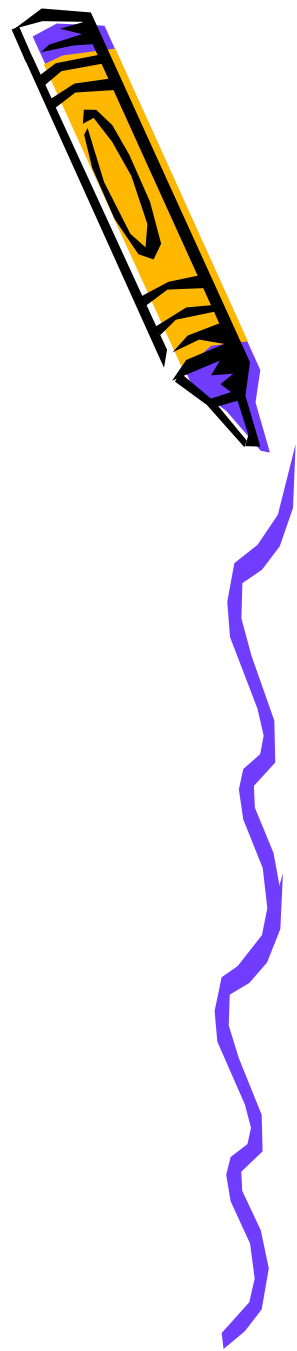




## 7. Cultivating Awareness: Fix-up strategies

- Go back and reread. Sometimes that is enough
- Read ahead to clarify meaning
- Identify what it is you don't understand: word sentence or concept
- If it is a word, read beyond and use context clues to help you understand.
- If it is a sentence in a picture book, look at the pictures.





- If it is a concept, try to summarize the story up to the confusing spot. If that doesn't clear it up, maybe you need to build more background knowledge.

