

Super 6 skills – WHY? Teacher explanations about benefits of active processing

Make connections



Whenever we **CONNECT** a new topic to stuff we already know about, it makes the learning much easier. Our brain links any new information to our pre-existing knowledge. Our brain builds networks of knowledge – it **ACTIVELY** processes information. Our brain wants to make a place in its overall map, to fit the new knowledge into. Our brain works by comparing new info with known information. How is this like something we already know? What does this remind us of? Has this happened to someone we know?

Predict



Predicting is great because it activates our minds and switches us on to where ideas or storylines may be headed.

If we look at the title and headings **BEFORE** we start reading, we pick up the **MAIN IDEAS** and we can start predicting where the topic is heading.

Predicting assists us with **ACTIVE** processing of info. If we process information actively, we make it our own & we remember it later so much better.

Question



Every successful learner has things/facts/ideas which puzzle them. Every successful learner makes mistakes as they go. We need to know that uncertainty and mistakes are normal.

When we ask questions about new ideas which puzzle us, we are **ACTIVELY** processing new information. As we keep reading or viewing, the answers become clearer. Asking questions is a real skill!

Monitor unknown words



We need to have tricks and strategies for working out what unknown words mean. We need to broaden out and add **NEW** strategies for **ACTIVE** processing of unknown words.

If we typically sound out a difficult word, let's add **CHUNKING** it, **GUESSING** in context, **IGNORING** it, **READING** onwards or **ASKING** someone...

Summarise



After we have read a chunk, or after reading the whole thing, we can **ACTIVELY** process the information or storyline by telling ourselves or writing down what that was all about.

These summaries make the information much more **MEMORABLE** later – because we created **OUR OWN** versions & examples.

Visualise



If you create a personal **VISUAL** summary, you will remember this later on. This is because you have **ACTIVELY** processed the information.

Choosing what is important, creating symbols or summary grids for the info makes the info **PERSONALLY** relevant. **EXPLAIN** your summary/visual to others.