

Making Connections®

“Comprehension strategies are conscious plans—sets of steps that good readers use to make sense of text. Comprehension strategy instruction helps students become purposeful, active readers who are in control of their own reading comprehension.”

—National Reading Panel

Making Connections® provides educators with explicit, scaffolded instruction and high-interest student materials to help students become active, strategic readers—able to construct meaning as they read a wide range of narrative and informational texts.

In every level of Making Connections you will find:

- ✓ Opportunities for active reading
- ✓ Scaffolded instruction
- ✓ A blend of informational and narrative text
- ✓ Multiple, thematic texts for each skill
- ✓ Explicit instruction in both skills and strategies

Comprehension Skills

Each unit of **Making Connections** focuses on one comprehension skill, such as comparing and contrasting, identifying main idea, or differentiating between fact and opinion. The research-based strategy is the vehicle through which students will acquire, develop, and refine comprehension skills—requisite abilities that enable students to read a text with understanding.

Comprehension Strategies

In every **Making Connections** lesson, students practice and apply strategies to informational or narrative texts. The wrap-around Teacher’s Edition offers instructional support for each strategy:

Before Reading

- Skill focus
- Build background knowledge*
- Text structure & purpose*
- Text features

During Reading

- Comprehension monitoring*
- Question generating*
- Vocabulary*
- Cooperative learning*

After Reading

- Reread for fluency
- Graphic organizer*
- Question answering*
- Summarizing*

*Denotes a research-based strategy

SKILLS	Book 1	Book 2	Book 3	Book 4	Book 5	Book 6
Identifying Detail						
Sequencing						
Main Idea						
Compare and Contrast						
Drawing Conclusions/ Predicting Outcomes						
Fact and Opinion						
Cause and Effect						
Figurative Language						
Bias and Prejudice						

■ Introducing the skill

■ Building on a previously introduced skill

Each unit culminates with a Comprehension Library reader that supports the independent application of skills and strategies.