

Predicting ABCs

Pre-Reading Strategy

What Is It? **Predicting ABCs** is an activity in which students predict which words, names, or concepts they expect to find in a text about a particular topic.

An example of how to teach it

1. Explain to students that a good reading strategy is to think about key words they might find in a text about a particular subject before they start to read it.
2. Introduce students to the blank Predicting ABCs graphic. The graphic provides alphabetically labeled squares to prompt students' reactions.
3. As a model, tell students to imagine they are about to read an informational article on computers. Ask them to call out words that they would expect to find in the article. Write their responses in the appropriate boxes on a blank transparency of the graphic.
4. Assign students a reading selection. Prior to reading, introduce the topic of the selection to the students. Have students call out any terms they expect to find in the selection. Ask students to define any words they call out. You may also want to pass out a blank copy of the graphic and have students compete in pairs to think of the most terms. For such an activity, group students in mixed-ability pairs.
5. Instruct students to skim the selection, calling out any terms printed in bold type while you write the terms in the appropriate boxes. Ask students to share the meanings of any of these terms that they may know. Ask them to explain how they know the term.
6. After reading the selection, have students go back to their lists to see which of the words they suggested were actually covered.
7. Tell students that as they read the selection, they will need to remember the meanings of these terms.

Predicting ABCs

Topic:

A-B	C-D	E-F	G-H
I-J	K-L	M-N	O-P
Q-R	S-T	U-V	WXYZ