Building Comprehension Skills



Rereading a selection allows readers to apply skills that give them a more complete understanding of the text. Some of these follow-up comprehension skills, such as Classifying and Categorizing, Cause and Effect, Sequence, and Compare and Contrast, help readers organize the information in a selection. Other skills, such as Drawing Conclusions, lead them to a deeper understanding of the selection.

Reread "The Kite" aloud with students, having them use the following comprehension skill:

• **Cause and Effect:** What happened in a selection is the effect. Why it happened is the cause.

Reading with a Purpose

Have students look for ways any of the story characters keep trying throughout the story.

MEETING INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

ELL Tip

PREREAD THE SELECTION Have Englishlanguage learners who may need help with the story read it before the whole-class reading, using the *Listening Library Audiocassette/CD*. As they read, help them associate what they see in the illustrations with the words in the story so they learn to think with English words before translating them first from their native language.

Intervention Tip

PREREAD THE SELECTION Preread with students who may need help in reading the selection during Workshop.

Teacher Tip CAUSE AND EFFECT An extended Cause and Effect lesson can be found in the Supporting the Reading section on

page 43C. This lesson is intended to give students extra practice with cause and effect. However, it may be used at this time to introduce the comprehension skill to students.

Research in Action The Writer's Croft

Good readers use many kinds of knowledge when reading, including background knowledge, knowledge of comprehension strategies, and knowledge of the writer's craft. Understanding the techniques authors use and why-how, for example, they can structure story plot (i.e., in standard temporal order or using a dual story line) or how they develop characterization (through, for example, dialogue and action rather than direct description) helps readers make meaning of the story. It also helps them to read as a writer, thus enabling them to use the texts they read as models for their own writing. (Anne McKeough)