Think Aloud
Literacy Skills / Comprehension

Virginia SOLs
1.11, 2.8, 3.5

Procedure

1. Select a passage to read aloud. The passage should have points that will pose some difficulties, such as ambiguity and unknown words.

2. Begin reading the passage aloud while students follow along. When you come to a trouble spot, stop and think through it aloud while students listen to your thought process.

3. Read the book in its entirety, stopping at trouble spots throughout. After two or three examples, invite students to share their thoughts as well. For the final think aloud, have students think-pair-share with a partner what they are thinking at that point in the text.

4. Scaffold students with this strategy until they can use the procedure independently. Silent readers may use a checklist, draw, or write in a response journal as an independent think-aloud. To do so, the teacher should designate stopping points for the silent think-aloud to occur.