
Interpreting Disciplinary Practices Inquiry

Team Tool 5.10 from *Leading for Literacy*

Purpose

This inquiry is a way for teachers in a discipline to identify common disciplinary reading practices — practices that are then more available to them as they consider how to stage them for their students.

Procedure

- Distribute the disciplinary text team members will be reading and the notetaker below. Ask that everyone answer the two “Before You Read” questions on the note-taker (or in a journal):
 - As a successful reader in this discipline, what expectations do you have about this text?
 - As a successful reader in this discipline, what predictions do you have about what you will be reading?
- Allow 10 minutes for team members to read the text — as they would read any text of the same kind, feeling free to write in the margins, underline, or circle words.
- After 10 minutes, alert everyone to write answers to the “After You Read” questions.
- Have the team cycle at least once more through reading for 10 minutes and answering the “After You Read” questions.
- Allow a few minutes for everyone to review their notes individually and generalize about their disciplinary reading in these areas:
 - The kinds of things they were focusing on or paying particular attention to and the roles these things played in comprehending the text
 - The kinds of questions they were asking themselves and the roles these questions played in comprehending the text
 - The kinds of images they were forming and the roles these images played in comprehending the text
 - The kinds of predictions they were making and the knowledge or information on which they based the predictions
- Facilitate a discussion of any patterns or generalizations team members noticed about their own reading processes. Record their responses for all to see.
- Invite discussion about the disciplinary practices that emerged from team members’ reading of this kind of disciplinary text and how it applies to their classrooms.

Interpreting Disciplinary Practices Inquiry Notetaker

Before you read	
Disciplinary Expectations: As a successful reader in this discipline, what expectations do you have about this text?	Disciplinary Predictions: As a successful reader in this discipline, what predictions do you have about what you will be reading?
After you read	
Focus: Which parts of the text did you focus on? Why did you pay particular attention to those parts?	Questions: What questions were you asking as you read? What were the purposes of your questions?
Images: What images were you forming as you read? What were the purposes of those images?	Predictions: Based on your reading of the text so far, what predictions do you have for the remainder of the text?