



# Visualization A Nonlinguistic Strategy

## What is it?

- Students make mental images of information being heard or read
- Mental pictures incorporate the senses
- Helps with remembering details and making conclusions

## Why does it work?

- Students make sense of information
- This leads to better storage for future use

## How can this strategy be used in my classroom?

- First, model the process by talking about the images you see in your mind, including sensory details, while reading a descriptive passage of fiction or nonfiction
- Then, read another passage while students listen with eyes closed. Ask them what they visualize with all five senses.

- Talk with students about what it means to visualize images in their minds; this may be explained as "making a movie in your mind"
- This helps students monitor comprehension: if the movie stops, the passage being read no longer makes sense!



- Before reading:
  - ⇒ Imagine the setting of the passage: sights, smells, temperature, sounds, even tastes!
- During reading:
  - ⇒ Describe similarities and differences between a book's illustrations and the student's visualization
  - ⇒ Draw pictures of what they visualize as they are reading
- After reading:
  - ⇒ If this story were made into a movie, which scenes would be most important to include?
  - ⇒ Dramatize a story or create a soundtrack with explanation

## References

- Dean, C.B., Hubbell, E.R., Pitler, H., & Stone, B.J. (2013). *Classroom instruction that works: Research-based strategies for increasing student achievement* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) [Kindle DX version]. Retrieved from amazon.com
- Fries-Gaither, J. (2009). *Visualizing to understand content area text*. Retrieved from <http://beyondpenguins.ehe.osu.edu/issue/icebergs-and-glaciers/visualizing-to-understand-content-area-text>
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## Image Credits

- Five senses: <http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-tiJbVJLOCc0/TZnsckHSodI/AAAAAAAAAAM/euSmgUsUw5E/s400/5-senses.jpg>
- Visualize poster: [http://www.catawbaschools.net/schools/Oxford/staff/Rachel\\_Lamb/Lamb%20Website%20Files/visualize.jpg](http://www.catawbaschools.net/schools/Oxford/staff/Rachel_Lamb/Lamb%20Website%20Files/visualize.jpg)
- Film reel: Microsoft Office clipart

# Visualize

to create mental pictures while you read. These will change as you read.

