

# Introduction

Students who have difficulty understanding text need explicit practice with answering comprehension questions on varying levels—literal, interpretive, critical, and creative. The 200 cards in this box include both nonfiction and fiction paragraphs that prompt students to answer questions. The questions cover 11 different comprehension skills and are coded as follows:

- cause and effect (CE)
- comparing and contrasting (CC)
- details (D)
- fact vs opinion (FO)
- main idea (MI)
- making inferences (INF)
- paraphrasing (PAR)
- predicting (PRE)
- problem solving (PS)
- sequencing (SEQ)
- vocabulary (V)

These cards are designed to be used with elementary students. The readability of the passages is controlled, based on the Flesch-Kincaid readability statistics (2002). The readability grade level for each paragraph is noted in the bottom left corner of each card. There are 40 cards for each readability grade level:

- 1.5 – 2.0 (cards 1-40)
- 2.1 – 2.4 (cards 41-80)
- 2.5 – 2.9 (cards 81-120)
- 3.0 – 3.4 (cards 121-160)
- 3.5 – 4.0 (cards 161-200)

These cards are a great tool for informally assessing your students' comprehension skills. The variety of questions allows you to specifically determine those areas in which more instruction is needed. We hope these cards will be a helpful addition to your instructional materials.

Abby and Cathy

## Directions

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Use the readability guide to determine which cards to use with your students.

- Have the student read the paragraph silently or aloud.
- Read the questions on the card to the student.
- Ask the student to choose an answer from those provided or to answer on his own, as appropriate.
- Answers are in blue. For some questions, answers will vary.
- Encourage students to discuss all possible answers.
- Require complete sentences for answering open-ended questions.
- Use your own judgment regarding appropriate responses.

Students can also work in pairs for more independent practice.