

What???? You know what we did last year?

(Reading strategies reviewed)

Since the dawn of time, students have used one main approach to avoid having to do what they don't like. Let's call it "selective forgetfulness". It works like this: the teacher asks a question such as "How many of you have heard of a reading strategy called QAR and the four types of questions?" and the students all pretend that they haven't—even though they ALL have. It may be on purpose or it might some genetic protective device still around from the first hunter-gatherers. Why students did it really doesn't matter. What does matter is that....

We know what you did last year!!

QAR is a strategy to help you understand where you need to look for certain types of questions.

Right There Questions: These are questions where the answer is found "right there" – in one spot of the text.

Think and Search: These are questions similar to "right there", but require you to look in a couple of spots and put the answer together.

Author and me: These questions require you to combine some information from the text with your prior knowledge, experience, and common sense.

On my Own: these questions do not have answers in the text. You need to use your own opinions and experiences to answer.

How to use this strategy: When you get a reading with questions, you should get in the habit of doing the following:

1. Look at the questions first.
2. Try to categorize them in your head.
3. As you read, look out for the answers, especially for the "Right There" and "Think and Search" ones that can be found completely in the text.

