

Different Types of Comprehension Charts

Comprehension charts are graphic organizers that are most commonly used after reading. Comprehension charts help students think about what they have read, evaluate their thoughts and feelings, and make connections.

Use comprehension charts:

- to record responses to literature such as story elements, personal connections, and questions;
- to record information so that comparisons and connections can be made between books when participating in ongoing units of study (several books on a particular topic or by a particular author);
- to document topics of study completed during the year so they can be reread and reviewed.

Procedures:

- Choose the type of chart to match the text and purpose of discussion.
- Before you begin writing on the chart, provide time for students to discuss what they have read.
- Write students' responses on charts during discussion.
- Acknowledge students for their ideas by placing their names beside their comments.
- Ensure that all students' responses are recorded on a regular basis.

Examples of charts:

Author Chart

(Consider including a picture of the author or book)

Title	Illustrator	Main Character	Problem	Resolution	Connection to other books

(Include several rows depending on how many books by the selected author are read.)

Narrative Chart

Title	Author	Beginning	Middle	End

**Expository (Data) Chart
"Whales"**

Kind	Appearance	Food	Home
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**Thematic Chart
"Friendship"**

Title	Author	How did character(s) show friendship?	Connections to other stories	Connections to my life
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Connection Chart

Title	Author/ Illustrator	Character with description	Observations	Connections
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Prediction Chart

Title/Author	Interesting words	Predictions	Checking predictions
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Adapted from Blachowicz, C., & Ogle, D. (2001). *Reading comprehension: Strategies for independent learners*. New York: Guilford Press; Roser, N. L., Hoffman, J. V., Labbo, L. D., & Farest, C. (1992). Language charts: A record of story time talk. *Language Arts*, 69, 44–52; Tompkins, G. E. (1998). *Fifty literacy strategies: Step by step*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Merrill.