

Lesson 1: Understanding the Reader

Newspaper Focus: News and Feature Stories

Background — Students have many different, unformed and incorrect perceptions about what it means to comprehend text. Many students think that they are supposed to soak up the information they encounter in their reading. They are unaware of the conscious activity that comprehension requires. Good readers make connections between what they already know and new information. The first activity, *Think About Yourself*, requires students to identify their familiarity level with the topics they will encounter in the newspaper. The second activity, *Think About the Newspaper*, has students anticipate where they can find different kinds of information in the newspaper.

Pre-K-2- English Standards

D. INFORMATIONAL TEXTS

1. Understand the main idea of simple expository information.

E. PROCESSES OF WRITING AND SPEAKING

1. Tell about experiences and discoveries, both orally and in writing.