

Literacy Strategy *Knowledge Rating*

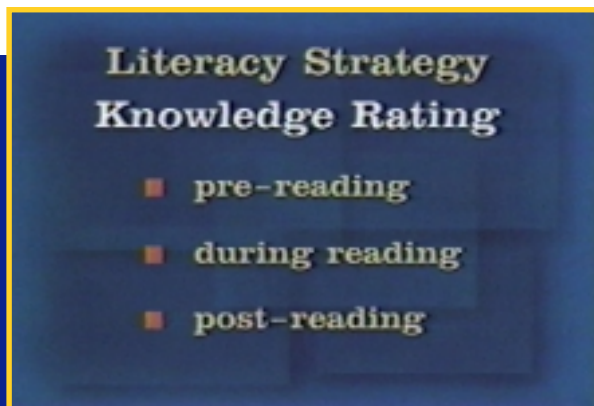
The Knowledge Rating literacy strategy can easily be incorporated into instruction in any content area (Blachowicz, 1986). It is a pre/during/and post-reading activity. Students begin with a list of vocabulary words and corresponding columns (see sample Knowledge Rating charts). Before reading, students analyze each word and note whether the term is familiar. If the student knows the meaning of the word, a short definition is written in the appropriate column. This pre-reading activity sets the stage for further clarification of the words through discussion or reading.

Next, students skim the text to locate the words in context. The location of the word is noted for later reference (with highlighters, removable sticky strips, underlining, etc.). It is permissible to have the students highlight a form of the word, if the exact word is not found first.



After reading the text completely, the words are revisited in context, and definitions are noted for each word. Such active participation in processing vocabulary is necessary to understand the text and to help students construct meaning.

The Knowledge Rating strategy should be introduced to the students and modeled so they will understand the steps involved in the process. This strategy helps students comprehend expository text found in different subject areas.



Knowledge Rating

Sample Knowledge Rating Charts

Knowledge Rating

Directions: Read the words in the first column. Place a check in one of the next three columns to indicate your understanding of each word. For each word checked "Can define" write a short definition in the "Pre-reading" column.

Vocabulary Words	No idea of meaning	Have seen this word	Can define	Pre-reading	Post-reading
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					

Knowledge Rating

Directions: Check the column that best describes your knowledge of the words listed.

Vocabulary Words	I know it!	I've heard of it...	I've never seen it before.
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Knowledge Rating