

Fidelity Checklist Knowledge Ratings

Knowledge Ratings is a before reading strategy designed to evaluate students' prior or background knowledge of a topic or concept. It is a reading-based strategy that can be modified for many grade levels to develop vocabulary and concepts. Students are given a list of words related to the topic or concept and rate how well they know each term. It is recommended that teachers present students with a list of vocabulary in a survey-like format in which students analyze each word individually. Follow-up discussions are encouraged because it will give teachers an understanding of how well students know the terms. Knowledge Ratings get readers to analyze what they know about a topic, support students' comprehension, and allow students to be one engaged in the lesson (Vacca, Vacca, & Mraz, 2014).

Knowledge Ratings can be used in for any grade level so there are different ways to create them. For younger grades, teachers can make it less complex and easier to read. A teacher can use this strategy aloud rather than on paper. For example, a teacher can say a word and students can use their fingers as a response. One can stand for "have seen/heard", two can stand for "have not seen/heard", and three can stand for "can define". This allows students to be active and engaged. Teachers can set up Knowledge Rating however they would like. Students can work individually or even in pairs. It is a very flexible and fun activity to get students' minds ready for a new lesson.

Science of Reading connection: In terms of Scarborough's (2018) Reading Rope, this strategy touches base with language comprehension and reading strategies. First, Knowledge Reading touches on students' background knowledge. As students read through the list of vocabulary words they are given, they are to mark off if they have knowledge of the word so this strategy allows students to think about the word from what they learned in the past. It also gives teachers an understanding of the students' background knowledge of the terms. Secondly, this strategy touches on vocabulary. Students brainstorm what they know about each word and they can define the words. If they do not know what the word means, they will learn it throughout the lesson. Knowledge Ratings incorporate literacy knowledge when students read and write the given words. Decoding is used during this strategy when students apply their knowledge of letter-sound relationships to correctly pronounce written words. Throughout this strategy, students may use sight recognition if they immediately know what the written word is and what it means. Overall, Knowledge Ratings is a great strategy to use in the classroom to get students thinking and ready to read and write.

Date:

Activity/Class:

Knowledge Ratings	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Demonstrate the strategy to students, explaining that it will get them thinking and prepare them for the new learning in the lesson. Explain the rating scale.			
2. Provide students with a list of words and say each one out loud. Have students then rate each word according to how well they know it. Students can be asked to write a definition for any words they marked in the 'Know it well' column or draw a sketch of the word.			
3. Discuss with students the terms they are familiar with and those they are not too sure about. Have students predict what they think unknown words			

might mean. Provide explanations and examples of any unknown terms before reading and draw attention to them when used throughout the lesson.			
4. Students rating scales can be collected and used to teach key vocabulary in the next lesson.			
Total steps completed accurately:			
Percentage of steps completed accurately:			

Additional notes or comments: