



Figure 3.1

## Reading to Make Meaning in Literary and Informational Texts

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### Narrator

- Literary: Is the narrator a character in the story? If so, who is it?
- Literary: Is the narrator someone “outside” the story (the author)?
- Informational: What is the author’s purpose? What does she or he want me to know and believe?
- What does the narrator/author seem to care about? How do I know?

### Characters/People

- Who are the characters/people?
- Who is the most important character (person)—and how can I tell?
- Do the characters/people stay the same throughout the text, or do they change? How do they change?
- What personal traits do I notice, and how do they make a difference?
- Do the characters/people have different points of view or the same point of view?

### Setting/Context

- *When* does the story or situation take place: past, present, future?
- Does the time and place seem to be important to the events? How?
- Does the setting stay the same throughout the story or situation, or does it change? Where?
- Does the author give a lot of details about the setting before telling about the problem?

### Problem/Events

- Is there a problem? If so, what is the *main* problem?
- What happens before the problem gets solved?
- Can I name several important details? Why are they important?

### Solution/Outcome/Ending

- How does the story or situation end?
- If there’s a problem, does it get solved? How?
- Does the author “wrap up” the story or situation, or does she or he leave unanswered questions?
- Is the ending happy or sad?

### Illustrations/Graphics/Text Features

- How do the illustrations/graphics add to my understanding of the story or information?
- Are there chapter titles, bolded words, subheadings, or other text features that support my understanding? What are they? How do they help me?

### Words

- What important words from this text will I need in order to talk about it?

### Craft

- Are there standout features of the language and structure that add to meaning?

### Metacognitive Strategies

- Where does the author want me to do the following: picture, wonder, predict, notice important clues, figure out, connect?

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