

## Taking a Stance

**INITIAL UNDERSTANDING\***: Here your students use their background knowledge and experience to step into a new text. They begin to make a mental picture of the text world.

### Questions to tap this after reading:

- What are your first impressions? What are you wondering about?
- What questions do you think we might discuss?

**DEVELOPING IDEAS**: Here your students move through the text and explore possibilities. They fill in the pictures in their mind, connecting relevant details to build a more cohesive text world.

### Questions to tap this:

- How did your understanding of the characters change as you read?
- What did you think of the ending of the story? How does it relate to the beginning?

\*We always start with the first stance, but the mind moves through the stances in no particular order.

**LEARNING FROM THE TEXT**: Here your students step out of the text and use it to think differently about their own lives and the world they live in.

## TAKING A CRITICAL STANCE

### Questions to tap this:

- How does what happened in the story make you think differently about \_\_\_\_\_?
- What did you learn about history, relationships, or human nature by reading this story?

### **TAKING A CRITICAL STANCE\*\***

Here your students step out of the text and the experience to critically and objectively examine the effect of the text on the reader.

### Questions to tap this:

- What parts of the text (phrases, sentences, images) were especially powerful for you? Why?
- What other pieces does this text remind you of? How?

**\*\* If you can see which stance your students are responding from, you can tap unused stances to enrich interpretation and deepen understanding.**

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