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Using narrative picture books to build awareness of expository text structure

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Abstract

For many students, reading in the content areas presents quite a challenge. The transition from an emphasis on narrative texts in the lower grades to expository texts in the upper grades is not always easy. This article describes a system I use for introducing expository text structure through the use of narrative picture books. My goal is to develop an understanding of expository text structure with simple texts so that students will be able to transfer these understandings to more cognitively dense content area materials.

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