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Sincerely,
Karen Haag

KAREN'S TOP 5 STRATEGIES FOR CREATING A PROFICIENT READERS' CLASSROOM

1. “Teach” students how to comprehend whatever text or visuals your discipline requires. Stop focusing on “teaching books” or “teaching content”. The content will come if students know how to learn it.
2. You are the best reader/thinker about the content in your classroom. Practice how to think aloud. Share how you make sense of reading, math, science, history, music, art “problems”.
3. Give students time to practice the reading or thinking they will share in small groups or with partners before they share with the whole group. Do not ask students to read unrehearsed text aloud in front of their peers. Do not correct them publicly when they do read aloud.
4. Encourage taking risks and making mistakes. Teach students to recognize when they are confused and to take action to get unconfused. Model what actions to take to get unstuck.
5. Assess each child. What is your plan for collecting evidence to prove that each student knows how to use each strategy?