

School Improvement Plan Literacy (Comprehension)

Rationale:

Fossa School is a co-educational school with 266 children enrolled. Currently there are ten mainstream classes and two Special Needs classes in addition to three full time support teachers and one shared resource teacher who is based in our school

Comprehension was targeted as a priority area for improvement and development based on the following observations:

- A review of Comprehension scores conducted in 2013
- Teachers asserted that competent comprehension skills are required to succeed in all areas of the curriculum.
- Teacher observations. Staff identified that some children had difficulty in mastering many important comprehension skills.
- Feedback from pupils: Pupils identified difficulty with specific comprehension skills such as inference, summarising, synthesis and determining importance in survey given.
- Parental Observations: Parents pinpointed comprehension as the fundamental reading skill through informal discussion at staff meetings and through parents' survey which was sent to all parents.
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Action Plan

Targets:

Most of the children in all classes will be able to use the following comprehension strategies by the June 2015:

Think Aloud. (Oct 2013)

Prediction (Nov 2013)

Visualisation (Feb.2014)

Making Connections. (Mar.2014)

Questioning. (April 2014)

Clarifying. (May 2014)

Declunking. (Sept.2014)

Determining Importance. (Oct 2014)

Inference. (Nov. 2014)

Synthesis. (Dec.2014)

Action:

1. All staff will up skill in teaching these comprehension strategies.
2. All staff will have access to material for effective teaching of strategies; Building Bridges First Steps.
3. Plan and timetable for specific teaching strategies.
4. All teachers will erect a class photograph with the appropriate hand signal which indicates the specific comprehension strategy being taught that month.

Responsibility:

All staff members

All teachers would use the period from January to June 2015 to consolidate the children's knowledge and application of the comprehension strategies. Teachers would also use the comprehension strategy checklist to assess progress in this area.

