

Observations of reading behaviors from running records

When analyzing children's reading, teachers might ask these questions:

Sources of information:

- Is the child trying to make sense of what is being read? Does the child read for meaning of this story? (semantic)
- Is knowledge of language patterns being used? Does the child use language structures? His/her own language? (syntax)
- Are knowledge of letters and their associated sounds being used? Does the student use the visual information in print?
 - initial consonant(s)?
 - scanning for more visual information?
 - using analogies or parts of words?

Strategic activity:

- Does the child monitor his/her reading with all sources of information?
- Does the child search for further information?
- Does the child reread? Does this result in fluent reading? Self-correcting? Confirmation?
- Are confirmations and self-correcting strategies being used? Does the child engage in self-correction behavior?

Does the child enjoy reading?

If the answer to any of these questions is "No", the teacher will need to provide appropriate assistance.