

# Curriculum Connection

11/14/11

## Important Dates

ACUITY – Algebra 1 (G7 –G 12)	11/7 – 11/21
End of Course Assess (G7 – 12)	10/17 – 12/21
SRI Benchmark (G6–G12)	11/28 - 12/20
Treasures Assessments (G1-G6)	Weekly

## Comprehension

Real comprehension has to do with thinking, learning, and expanding a reader's knowledge and horizons.

There are **7 Keys to Comprehension**, Susan Zimmermann and Chryse Hutchins, to build a student's understanding of what the words and sentences mean.

1. Create mental images
2. Use background knowledge
3. Ask questions
4. Make inferences
5. Determine the most important ideas and themes
6. Synthesize information
7. Use "fix up" strategies

**This week's focus: Create mental images or visualizing**

Sensory images are the cinema unfolding in your mind that makes reading three-dimensional. Certain smells, tastes, sights, and feelings emerge, depending on what you're reading and what life experiences you bring to it.

- ✓ Be explicit and direct about what you see in your mind and sharing sensory images that you have as you read.
- ✓ Create a "thought bubble", like a comic strip, to explicitly demonstrate how proficient readers think while they are reading
- ✓ Wordless books; it's easy to be aware of our own thinking with no words

Keep working on this even with Advanced Readers as their text becomes more complicated.

## Compass Odyssey

Learning activities associated with state standards can be found by following: District Shares>Curriculum Resources>Technology>Compass Odyssey>State correlation report>select grade level

## K-G2 Collaboration Topics

- RtI students
- DIBELS Data
- Guided Reading Groups
- progress monitoring

## Technology

Two and a-half minute **video** on visualization:

[www.state.nj.us/education/nipep/pd/rfpd/movies/financial\\_comprehension/comp\\_seq11.wmv](http://www.state.nj.us/education/nipep/pd/rfpd/movies/financial_comprehension/comp_seq11.wmv)

**Sketch to stretch** – support for visualization

<http://www.learner.org/libraries/makingmeaning/makingmeaning/support/sketch.pdf>

## UPDATE for SRI BENCHMARK

SRI testing window runs from Monday, November 28 until Tuesday December 20, 2011. That's 19 school days!

There has been an **update** on sharing testing licenses. High schools and the Jr. Highs, Middle School and sixth grade classes that funnel into them, will need to collaborate to set up their testing dates by grade level. Example; Heritage Elementary 6<sup>th</sup> grade will need to work with Heritage Jr/Sr High School on which dates the grades 6 – 12 will use testing licenses.

Assigned grade levels will need to **activate, test, and deactivate students** within a designated window of time so that the licenses can then be available to the next assigned grade level. In addition, any reports that need to be run, such as the **Intervention Grouping Report**, will need to be done prior to deactivating tested students. **These steps will be completed by CRTs, Instructional Coaches, and Test Coordinators in your buildings.**

Students that are already on a progress monitoring cycle will not need to change their 30 day testing schedule. Please be aware that when reviewing this new data, the students chosen for progress monitoring may need to change.

## G3-G8 Collaboration Topics

- RtI students
- ACUITY matrix reports
- Guided Reading Groups –progress monitoring