

Schema Theory

All knowledge is organized into units

Knowledge is called schemata



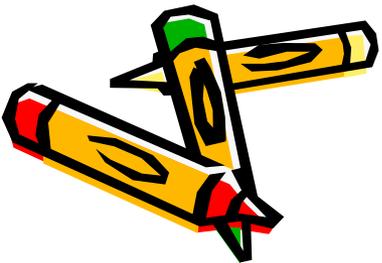
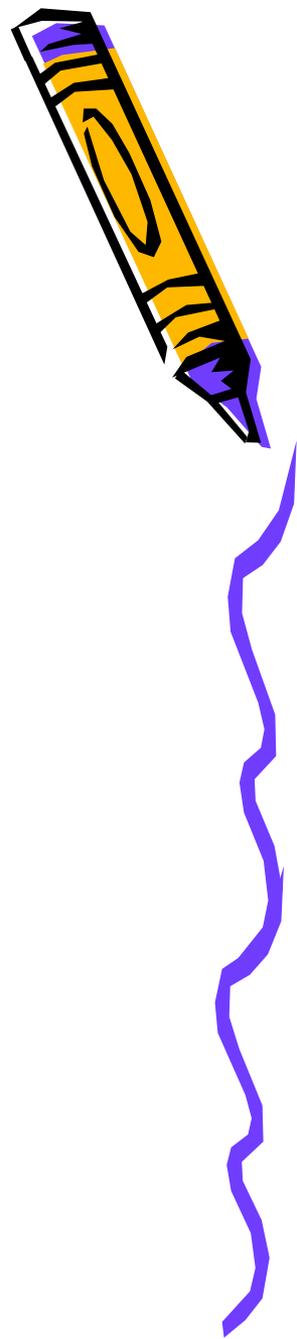
Schema for Dog

General Knowledge

Specific dog types

Compared to other animals

Friend or Foe?

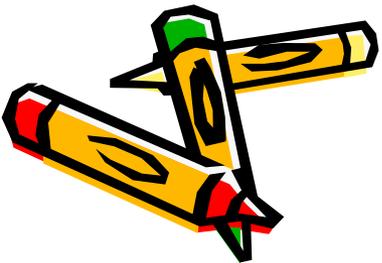




Schemata and Reading

- How do readers organize and use their knowledge re: reading task?
(Perspectives on Reading)-remember beliefs?

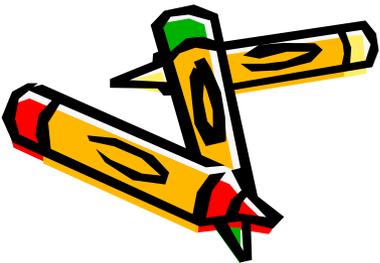
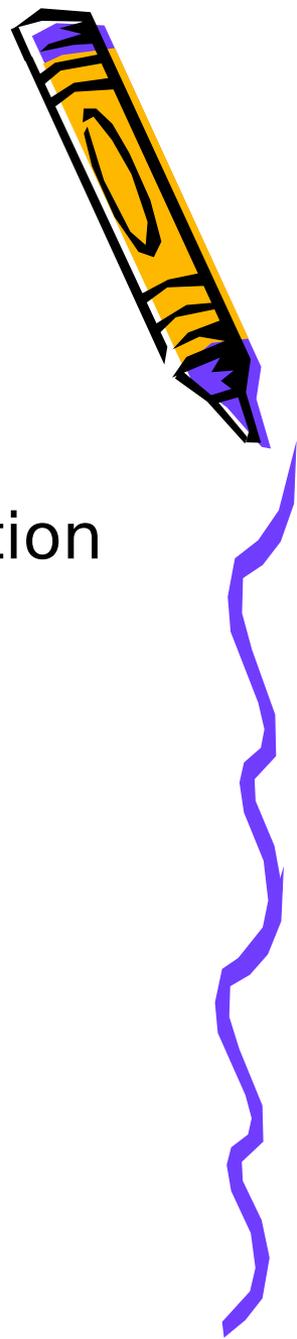
Bottoms Up or Top Down



Perspectives on Reading

- Cognitive Based

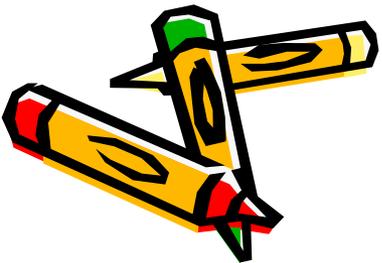
- Emphasizes internal aspects of attention
 - Alertness
 - Selectivity
 - Limited capacity
- What if the student spends all her/his cognitive energy on the task of decoding?



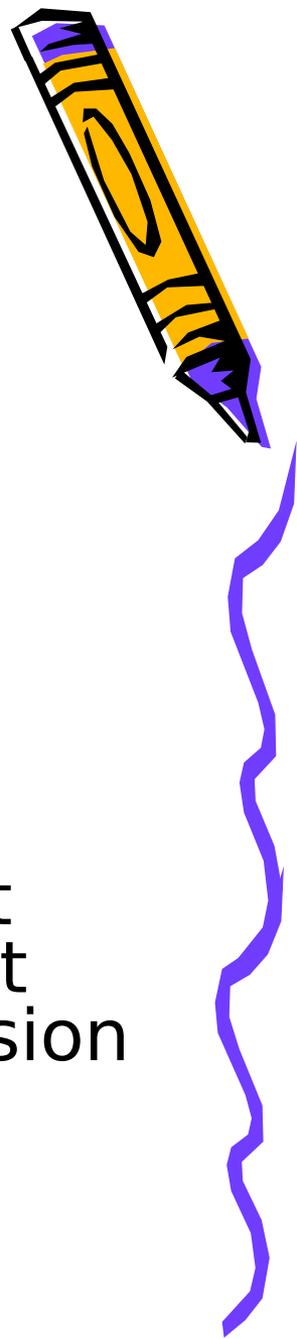
Reading as Sociocognitive



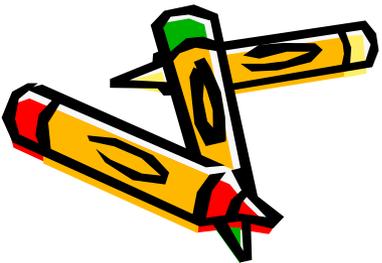
- Reader
- Text
- teacher
- Social context
- Participants in literacy events form and reform meaning
- Teacher orchestrates setting
- Ruddell, 1994



Reading as Transactional



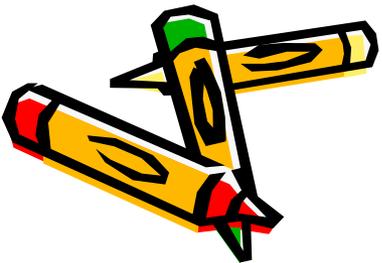
- Reader and text are two aspects of a dynamic situation
- Meaning doesn't reside in one or the other but happens
- A book is just strokes without a reader
- Text has no meaning in itself
- How well the writer constructs the text and how well the reader reconstructs it will determine the level of comprehension



Perspective Informs Approach-Emergent Leveled Readers



- During guided reading instruction, teachers and reading coaches employ leveled readers. (see big book)
- How are books leveled?
- Word count
- Number of different words
- Ratio of different words to total words
- Number of high-frequency words
- Number of low-frequency words
- Sentence length
- Sentence complexity
- Predictability
- Language pattern and repetition
- Print size, spacing, and number of words per page
- Illustration support
- Concept load
- Topic familiarity



Perspectives Inform Approaches-Basal Readers



Pros

- Multi-cultural
- Repetition
- Different types of literature (author info, poetry, non-fiction, etc)
- CD's provide more activities and information
- Moral lessons
- It encourages students to read more than just one story

Cons

- Boring illustrations, not colorful enough
- Some students could get confused with story lines
- Students are not able to choose what to read
- It's a textbook...students won't appreciate a book
- It is a larger book (over 200 pages) and can be intimidating

