

Strengthen student comprehension through background knowledge

Building literacy skills is key to success for students across the curriculum! Research shows building background knowledge supports a host of cognitive processes students need for comprehension.



Make meaningful connections

Students can connect new information to existing knowledge, improving comprehension and retention.



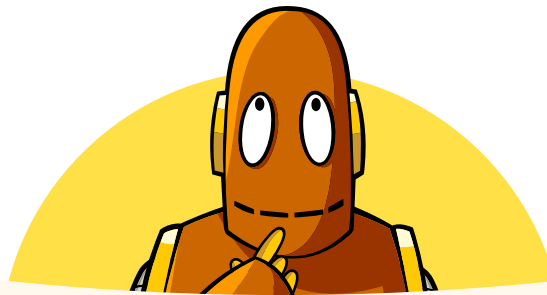
Draw inferences and make predictions

Students have the context they need to fill in any gaps with logical, accurate inferences.



Engage critically with text

Students can evaluate claims made by an author, ask deeper questions, and form their own opinions.



BrainPOP strategies for building background knowledge

BrainPOP movies provide an accessible way to build content and vocabulary knowledge before reading. Try these flexible approaches along with watching movies:



Preview vocabulary: Before diving into a new topic, introduce key vocabulary highlighted in a BrainPOP movie. You can reference the movie transcript to guide your discussion, or pause the movie when new terms come up.



Visual exploration: Share screencaps from a movie to pique interest and spark curiosity. These visuals can serve as conversation starters, helping students connect new ideas to what they already know.



Activate prior knowledge: Before watching a movie, engage students in a KWL chart activity using Make-a-Map. Encourage everyone to share what they already know (K), what they want to learn (W), and afterward, what they've learned (L).