

# Preface

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**R**eading provides an opportunity to journey to another world and make sense of things that happen in other times and places. Reading is also an opportunity to connect new information to what is already known. Many middle and high school students today, however, struggle to take advantage of the opportunities that reading provides. These students do not see that reading is the essential component to being successful academically. This book provides teachers across the curriculum with the strategies and activities necessary for helping students be successful readers who are able to acquire knowledge in each of their academic classes. The activities presented in this book are appropriate for all levels grades 6–12, including gifted and talented, special education, and English as a second language.

The activities that teachers encounter in this book are based on the work of such leading reading researchers as Michael Pressley and anchored in the standards published by the International Reading Association and the National Council of Teachers of English. Although this book is grounded in theory and research, the emphasis is on practical techniques and activities for meeting the needs of students in the area of reading across the curriculum. These classroom-proven techniques can be immediately incorporated into the content-area teacher's curriculum. This book provides teachers with a multitude of ways for reaching all students and improving their reading proficiency in all subject areas. Teachers will learn how to use double-entry journals, text coding, bookmarking, and questioning strategies to help students be more engaged readers. In addition, teachers are provided with various activities to foster independence, self-reflection, and motivation in students. Teachers across the curriculum will gain a wealth of ideas for helping students respond to text, evaluate and discuss what they read, and assess their own growth.

Each chapter presents the teacher with a skill overview, a detailed description of relevant subskills, several practical skill-building activities, and an assessment rubric. The skill-building activities illustrate specifically for the teacher how to use the instructional approaches across the content areas. The vignettes give examples of real students using the activities to make sense of text, respond to text, and increase their overall comprehension of text. The resource section of this book provides blank reproducibles so that teachers can incorporate the activities immediately into their own classroom. Teachers from every content area will be able to immediately see how to use the activities presented to help their students be successful readers.