

Skill

- * Making Personal Connections
- * Analyzing
- * Comparing and Contrasting

Management Tip

After modeling how to use this organizer, have students complete it independently and then share their responses during group literature discussions.

Literature Link

Almost Home by Nora Raleigh Baskin (Little, Brown, 2005).

Twelve-year-old Leah has difficulty adjusting to living with her father and stepmother.

That Reminds Me!

Purpose

Students increase comprehension by connecting what they read to their own lives.

Introducing the Activity

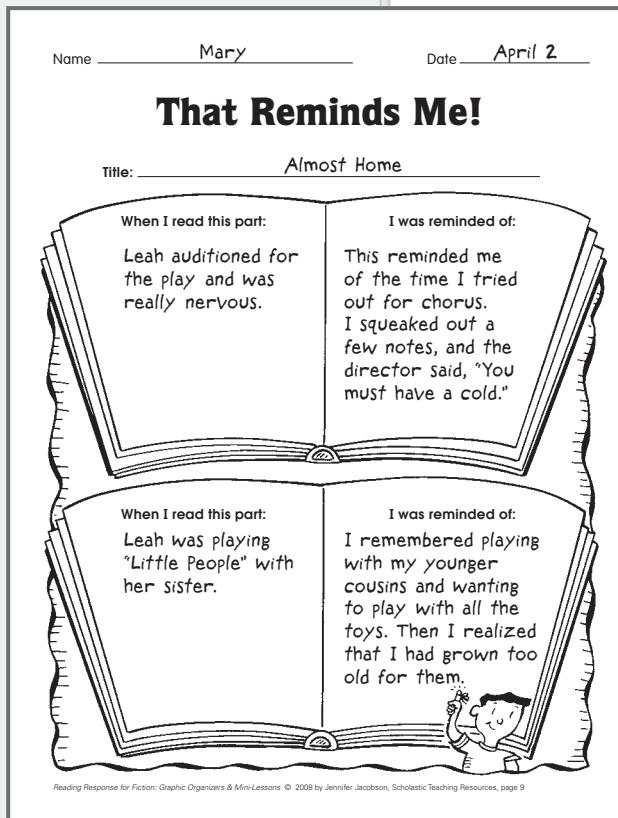
Explain to students that actions or events in a story might remind them of experiences in their own lives. Point out that when readers make personal connections to the text, they understand more fully what they read. Then tell students that they will connect events from a book to their own personal experiences.

Using the Graphic Organizer

1. Choose a short story to read aloud to students. Provide copies for students to follow along as you read.
2. As you read, pause when you come to a part of the story that reminds you of an event in your life. Share with students what personal experience came to mind when you read that particular passage.
3. To model how to use the organizer, write a brief description of the story event on the left side of a book. Then write the personal experience that the event reminded you of on the right side.
4. Distribute copies of the organizer for students to complete independently. Have them continue reading the story on their own. Each time they reach a part that reminds them of a personal experience, have them record their connection on a book on the organizer.

Taking It Further

Have students compare the circumstances, setting, emotions, reactions, and so on of the event in the text to their own personal experiences. They might also make text-to-text and text-to-world connections by comparing events to those in other stories they've read or to current world events.



Name _____

Date _____

That Reminds Me!

Title: _____

When I read this part:

I was reminded of:

When I read this part:

I was reminded of:

