

Cross Check-Double Check

ZooBorns!

Zoo babies from around the world

by Andrew Bleiman & Chris Eastland



Description:

Enjoy this photo book of seventeen baby animals from around the world. Everyone who takes a look says, “Ahhh.”

Connection:

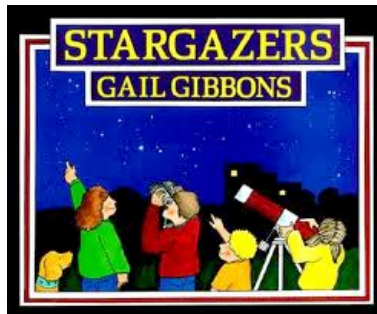
To demonstrate cross check-double check, purposefully mispronounce a word several times during the reading. Some of the animal’s names are unfamiliar so that could be a reminder to employ the strategy. Then say, “No, that doesn’t sound right. I need to cross check-double check,” while making the hand signal. (See lesson) Go back and “fix” the word, then reread the sentence. Finally, after reading the word correctly, it’s a good idea to say, “Yes, that makes sense now.”

There are many other Zoo Books in the series for your animal lovers. For additional non-fiction reading pleasure, check out zooborns.com. It’s a wealth of animal and zoo information filled with photographs and videos.

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Stargazers

By Gail Gibbons



Description:

Stargazers is a non-fiction book about the evening sky. Gail Gibbons is a prolific writer with books written on many topics about our world.

Connection:

Procedures for cross check-double check remain the same regardless of the book. Sometimes it looks more natural to mispronounce words that are longer such as: astronomer, atmosphere, constellation and binoculars in this book. If you trip on words that are too easy, some students will correct you before you even finish saying cross check-double check and the moment is interrupted. If that happens, sometimes I'll thank the word "assistant" but say, "I'd like to try and figure it out for myself" and complete the process.

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Skippyjon Jones

By Judy Schachner



Description:

Meet Skippyjon Jones, the famous cat who hearts desire is to be a chihuahua. Children love these books. There is action galore and certainly many interesting words within.

Connection:

These books work well when practicing the skill of cross check-double check. There are many fanciful words and phrases included in the story that require a second look. They make lovely lyrical sounds but can be tricky to enunciate. Sometime it's inevitable to trip on those words. Just take advantage of the teachable moment. Here are some examples:

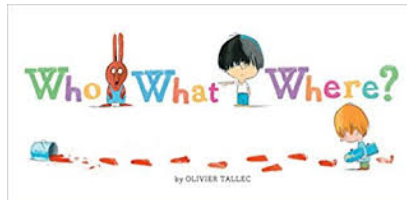
Mama Junebug Jones
Mrs. Doohiggy's birdbath
Skippito Friskito
Mr. Fluffernutter
Poquito Tito
El Blimpo Bumblebeeto Bandito

After the initial lesson on cross check-double check, the skill can be practiced whenever it naturally occurs. This regular review will help children cement the strategy.

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Who What Where?

By Oliver Tallec



Description:

This book is a visual treat. A question is asked on each double page spread.

Who left a jacket at home?
Who's looking in the mirror?
Who's in disguise?

To discover the answers, you need to look through the illustrations of the cast of characters and determine which one best answers the question.

Connection:

This book begs to be cross checked-double checked as you read. Some of the clues are very subtle and it's easy to pick the wrong character. That's the perfect time to "notice" how a character doesn't quite make sense, it doesn't completely answer the question. Then go back and take a second look to find the best choice.

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My Heart Is Like a Zoo

By Michael Hall



Description:

Most of the graphic illustrations in this book are made from hearts. It's quite a design feat.

Connection:

In this story, each page has a different animal created from hearts. It is fun to cover the words on several pages with a post-it note. Then as you read, students can guess the animals. Next, cross check-double check the words to see if their guesses were correct. Read the words with the animal name to see if it sounds right.

Modeling cross check-double check is essential for students to fully understand how and when to use the strategy, but it can also be overdone. Children will begin to complain if you stop the flow of the story too often. After the initial introduction and children are using it independently, review the strategy once or twice a week in a class read-aloud.

When conferring with a child, ask him or her to demonstrate what they know about the strategy as you listen to them read. If they stumble and get stuck, try using the hand-signal to jog their memory.