## **Using Strategies Together**

**Activity**: Electronic Journal Responses

Purpose: To encourage students to use multiple strategies to understand and respond to text.

- 1. Provide your students with the electronic tools (computer with a word-processing and drawing program, or children's program such as Kid Pix) for organizing their written responses to text.
- 2. Show students examples of a thoughtful journal response to text. You can model this by reading part of a text aloud and then writing a response on a computer connected to a projector. Facilitate a discussion about the differences between a thoughtful response and a shallow response. You could also write a thoughtful response AND a shallow response and ask your students to explain which response is more interesting to read.
- 3. Journal responses can include reactions, questions, predictions, connections, evaluations, inferences or feelings and illustrations.
- 4. Encourage students to share their journal entries with classmate.
- 5. Some teachers post journal response prompts in their classroom.

## **Journal Response Prompts:**

- What was your favorite part? Explain.
- How did this make you feel? Explain.
- What was important in the chapter? How do you know?
- Did your thinking change? Explain.
- What is something new that you learned? Explain.
- What connections did you make? Explain.
- What did it remind you of? Explain.
- Do you have any questions?





