**INSERT**

The purpose of INSERT is to provide opportunities for reflection and to make connections between prior knowledge and text content.

Procedure:

1. Engage in direct instruction and think aloud to teach the INSERT method.

2. Introduce a topic and ask students to brainstorm lists of what they already know about it.

3. Teach students the following modified notation system:

**If an idea:** **Put this notation in the margin:**

Confirms what you thought √ Insert a checkmark

Contradicts what you thought --Insert a minus sign

Is new to you + Insert a plus sign

Confuses you ? Insert a question mark

4.Encourage students to use the notation system in the margins of the informational text or on sticky notes as they read the various parts of the text. For example, students place a checkmark in the margin if the information they are reading verifies what is on the brainstorm lists; they place a plus sign if the information is new to them (not on their lists); they place a minus sign if the information contradicts or disproves information on the brainstorm lists; they place a question mark if the information is confusing.

5. After the students finish reading and inserting symbols, use the information as the basis for discussion, to seek more information, to answer questions, or to raise new questions.