Reciprocal Teaching

Reciprocal Teaching is in some ways a compilation of four comprehension strategies: summarizing, questioning, clarifying, predicting

Procedure:

1. Put students in groups of 4.
2. Distribute paper to each member and have them fold the paper to create a quadrant. Have them label the quadrants: Summarizer, questioner, clarifier, predictor
3. Assign each student one of the above roles.
4. Have students read a few paragraphs of the assigned text selection. Encourage them to use note-taking strategies such as underlining or sticky-notes to help them better prepare for their role in the discussion. They can write on their quadrant as they work. Remind them to ONLY write in their assigned job quadrant.
5. At the given stopping point, the Summarizer will highlight the key ideas up to this point in the reading.
6. The Questioner will then pose the questions about the selection:

* Unclear parts
* Puzzling information
* Connections to other concepts already learned
* Motivations of the agents or actors or characters
* Etc

1. The clarifier will address the confusing parts and attempt to answer the questions that were just posed.
2. The Predictor can offer guesses about what the author will tell the group next or, if it’s a literary selection, the predictor might suggest what the next events in the story will be.
3. The roles in the group then switch one person to the right, and the next part of the reading selection is read. Students repeat the process using their new roles. This continues until the entire selection is read.