Good readers activate and connect to pertinent background knowledge when reading.

Background Knowledge:
- Your personal history based on:
  - What you read
  - What you seen
  - Your adventures
  - Experiences of day to day life
  - Your relationships
  - Your passion

Methods of developing background knowledge:
- Storytelling
  - Talking about your own background knowledge with others
- K-W-L or K-W-L-Q charts

Type of Connections:
- Text to self: make a connection between the text and his/her past experience and/or background knowledge.
- Text to text: make a connection between the two similar texts (story, article, poem, play, song)
- Text to world: make a connection between the text and world (school, community, state, nation, world) events and issues

Points of Connections (Literary Elements)
- Characters (motives, thoughts, and feelings)
- Setting
- Plot
- Theme

Points of Connection (Nature of the text)
- Genre
- Format
- Form
- Author
• Text Structure
• Signal words

Points of Connection (Content of the text)
• Reinforces information
• Gains additional information
• Contradicts previous knowledge
• Insufficient information

Activities for making connections
  ▪ Stopping and reflecting
  ▪ Using text sets
    • Author or illustrator studies
    • Versions of fairy tales
      o Traditional vs. contemporary
  ▪ Graphic organizers that could be used making connections or comparison between text
    ▪ Venn diagrams
    ▪ T charts

Activities for building background knowledge
  ▪ K-W-L chart
  ▪ Anticipation guide