



# How to Use START-to-FINISH® Library to Build Comprehension





## Using Start-to-Finish® Library for Comprehension Practice

Start-to-Finish Library furnishes educators with the tools to help struggling readers build comprehension skills. It allows struggling learners to practice building background knowledge, vocabulary and decoding skills to foster reading comprehension by reading at their own pace. Learners achieve comprehension, making it easier to pick up the next book and finish it.

## Matching Students to Text

Learners who are still struggling with reading when they reach the upper elementary, middle and high school grades can benefit from Start-to-Finish Library Comprehension Practice. Start-to-Finish Library is designed for learners with reading levels of 2nd through 5th grade.

Use Start-to-Finish Library When Learner Data Shows		
Reading 1 or more grades behind grade level	Reading at Lexile® levels between 300L - 850L	Struggling based on existing measures

Select Blue or Gold Text		
Reading Level	Lexile Range	Start-to-Finish
2nd-3rd grade	300L - 650L	Gold 
4th-5th grade	600L - 850L	Blue 

## How to Choose Start-to-Finish Library Titles

Set your purpose for reading:

High Interest	Tied to Curriculum	By Genre
Mysteries Biographies	Classic Literature History	Classic Literature Mysteries Biographies

A complete list of titles is available on [www.donjohnston.com](http://www.donjohnston.com)

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Published by:  
Don Johnston Incorporated  
26799 West Commerce Drive Volo, IL 60073  
800.999.4660 (USA/CANADA) 847.740.0749  
[www.donjohnston.com](http://www.donjohnston.com)

Technical Support  
[support@donjohnston.com](mailto:support@donjohnston.com)  
800.889.5242 (USA/CANADA)

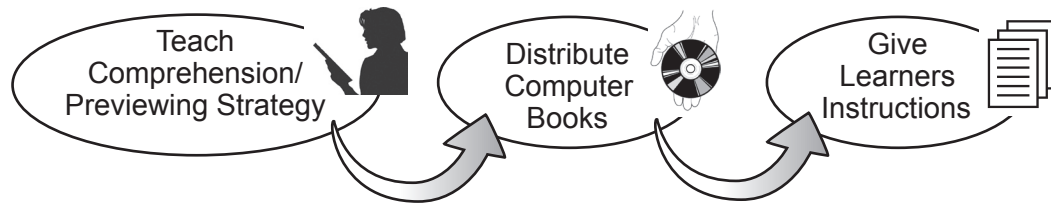
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## Reading Routines/Strategies

### BEFORE Reading:

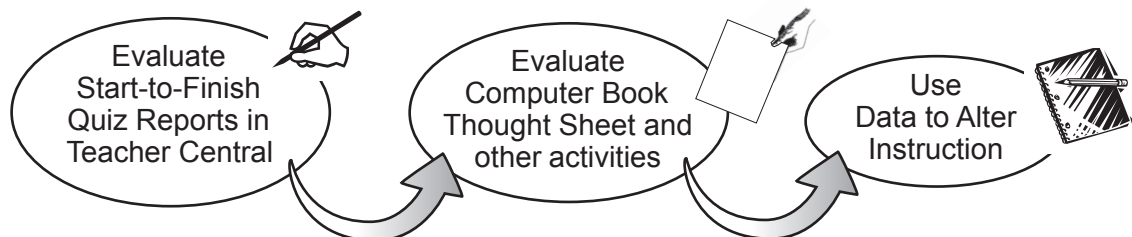


### Comprehension Building Strategies:

Have Learners:

- Preview their book using the **How to Preview a Book** sheet at the back of this guide.
- Preview their chapter using the **Predict and Check** sheet at the back of this guide.
- Listen to the passage as it is read aloud by the computer and then read the passage on their own. (Hear it, Read it)
- Read independently at or below their independent reading level to promote confidence in comprehension. (Independent Reading)
- Write in response to thinking using the **Computer Book Thought Sheet** at the back of this guide. (Individual or Group)
- Reflect on how their thinking has changed after discussion using the **Predict and Check Chapter** sheet at the back of this guide.
- Self-monitor their progress with Start-to-Finish quizzes at the end of each chapter. They should evaluate their score to decide if they should re-read the chapter.
- Write down or draw pictures to represent their thinking while reading or listening to text read aloud using the **My Character and Me** sheet at the back of this guide.

### AFTER Reading:



## Evaluate Start-to-Finish Reading Data

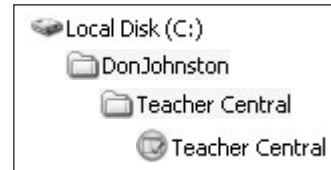
Depending on the Start-to-Finish Library book, the computer book asks the learner to complete one or more quizzes at the end of each chapter. This is excellent for evaluating comprehension and fluency. Use Start-to-Finish Library Teacher Central (automatically installed) to review automatically generated reports for the data and scores collected from the quizzes. Over time, analysis of this data can provide insight into the successes and challenges each learner is experiencing.

You can get the following reports:

- **Cloze Quiz** report (Gold Level only)
- **Questions** report (Blue Level only)
- **Word Meanings** report (Blue Level only)
- **Words Clicked On** report
- **Fluency Practice** report

### To open Start-to-Finish Teacher Central:

(In Windows) Select **Start, My Computer**. Then double-click the following:



(On a Macintosh) Double-click **Macintosh HD, Applications, Don Johnston, Teacher Central, Teacher Central**.



### To use Start-to-Finish Teacher Central:

Select the learner name and the data you want to evaluate from the drop-down lists.

## The Cloze Quiz Report (Gold Level Only)

Learners take a Cloze Quiz at the end of each chapter to test for comprehension. They choose from fill-in-the-blank choices that fit grammatically into the sentence. Their answers are captured and compiled in the Cloze Quiz report.

Time it took to take the quiz

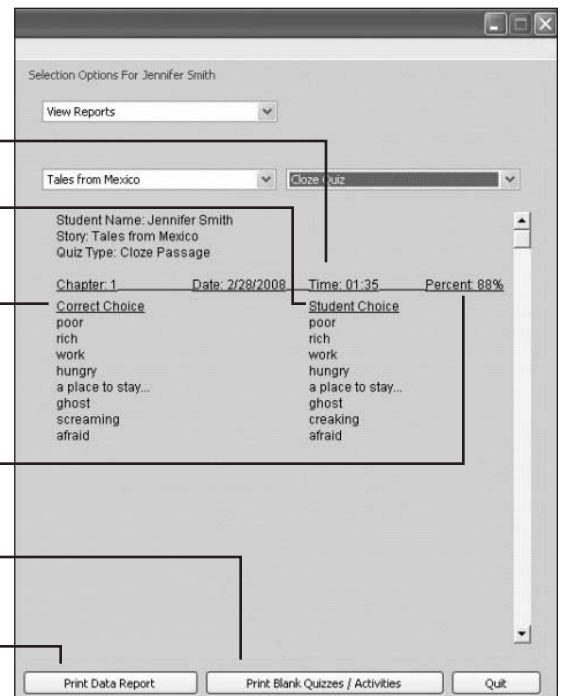
Reader's answers

Correct answers

Percentage of correct answers

Print a blank quiz

Print the Cloze Quiz report



## Questions and Word Meaning Reports (Blue Level Only)

Learners take the Questions Quiz and Word Meanings Quiz to test for comprehension. Both quizzes use a multiple-choice format. Being more inferential, these quizzes encourage learners to pay attention to non-literal meanings of words. Learners must go beyond the exact words of the text to find the underlying meanings. Learners' answers are captured and compiled in a report.

### Questions Quiz Data:

Selection Options For Jennifer Smith

View Reports

Greek Myths II - Heroes, Lovers, and Mc Questions

Student Name: Jennifer Smith  
 Story: Greek Myths II - Heroes, Lovers, and Mortal Man  
 Quiz Type: Questions

Chapter: 1 Date: 2/29/2008 Time: 01:24 Percent: 75%

Correct Choice	Student Choice
d	D
a	C
c	C
b	B

Correct answers

Reader's answers

### Word Meanings Quiz Data:

Selection Options For Jennifer Smith

View Reports

Greek Myths II - Heroes, Lovers, and Mc Word Meanings

Student Name: Jennifer Smith  
 Story: Greek Myths II - Heroes, Lovers, and Mortal Man  
 Quiz Type: Word Meanings

Chapter: 1 Date: 2/29/2008 Time: 00:53 Percent: 75%

Correct Choice	Student Choice
c	C
d	D
d	D
b	C

Correct answers

Reader's answers

Time it took to take the quiz

Percentage of correct answers

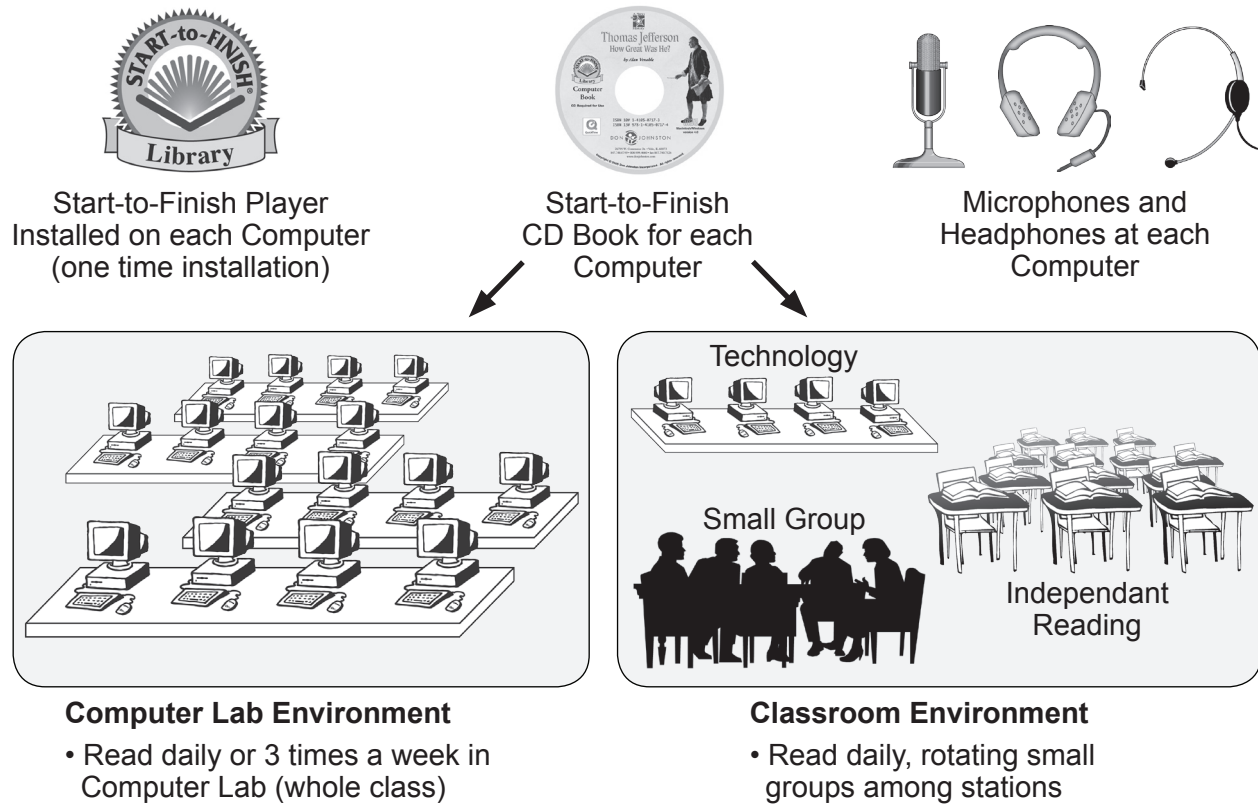
## How to Use Questions and Word Meaning Quiz Data

Use the **Instructional Decisions** on the **Use Data-driven Instruction** sheet if you find that comprehension for your learners needs improvement.

The Questions and Word Meanings Quiz data help you monitor your learners' progress by comparing it to quizzes taken previously. Evaluate the following:

- Is the time it takes to complete a quiz decreasing?
- Is the percentage of correct answers increasing?
- If the percentage of correct answers is increasing, then it is OK if the time it takes to complete a quiz remains unchanged or differs only slightly.

# Computer Lab and Classroom Implementation



A typical chapter takes approximately 10 minutes to read and perform the assessment exercises.

## Computer Checklist

- Did I make pre-arrangements to have computers for my program?
- Is the Start-to-Finish Library Player installed on each computer being used in the program? (one time installation)
- Do I have enough computers, microphones and headphones?
- Did I ensure that learners will work on the same computer each day, so that their data is all in one place?
- Did I select a Reading Purpose?
  - Assessment of Independent Reading (learners read silently with only single-word support)
  - Listening Comprehension (learners listen to the narrator read each chapter, then complete the quizzes with speech support)
  - Building Word Recognition (learners listen to the narrator read each chapter, then complete quizzes **without** speech support.)



# Individual Learning Plan

**Learner Name:**

**Teacher:**

**Date:**

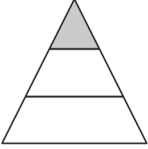
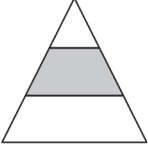
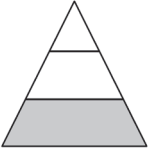
**Start-to-Finish Text:**

- Gold 2nd-3rd grade
- Blue 4th-5th grade

**Reading Goal:**

- High Interest
- Tied to Curriculum
- By Genre

Circle or check the intervention type, frequency/location, and duration for the individual learner

Intervention Type	Frequency and Location				Duration		
	<i>Lab</i>	<i>Classroom</i>	<i>Resource Room</i>	<i>Learning Center</i>	1 Chapters	2 Chapters	3 Chapters
<b>Intensive</b>  <b>Tier 3</b>	Daily	Daily Small-Group Instruction Time Computer Time	Daily Resource Time	Daily	10 min.	20 min.	30 min.
<b>Moderate</b>  <b>Tier 2</b>	2-4 Times a Week	2-4 Times a Week Small-Group Instruction Time Computer Time Independent Reading	2-4 Times a Week Resource Time	Independent Reading Learning Center Time	10 min.	20 min.	30 min.
<b>Classroom</b>  <b>Tier 1</b>	2-3 Times a Week	Independent Reading Small-Group Instruction Time	Resource Time	Independent Reading Learning Center Time	10 min.	20 min.	30 min.



# Use Data-driven Instruction

## Comprehension Key

+ improvement   - decline   ∅ no change

### Weekly/Bi-Weekly Data Review

Learner Name:	Date:	+ - ∅	Teacher Name:
			Recommendation
Comprehension			
Cloze Quiz			
Questions Quiz			
Word Meanings Quiz			
Comprehension			
Comments			
Actions			

Learner Data Shows	Instructional Decisions
Comprehension is not increasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Try different Comprehension Building Strategies.</li> <li>• Have learners listen to smaller chunks of text; then discuss meaning.</li> <li>• Before reading a chapter, preview chapter title (where applicable), illustrations and captions to activate background knowledge and encourage predicting and visualization.</li> <li>• Have learners read Cloze Quiz (Gold only) aloud to check their answers in context before clicking <b>Done</b>.</li> <li>• Encourage learners to refer to the paperback or computer book (Blue only) before clicking <b>Done</b> to check and correct their answers.</li> <li>• Check <b>Words Clicked On</b> report to determine readability. If a learner is clicking on an average of 5 words or more per page, look for text with lower readability.</li> </ul>
<p>Fluency is increasing but the learners are not comprehending the text</p> <p>Learner is re-taking quizzes or scoring low on quizzes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dialog with learners prior to reading to activate and build background knowledge.</li> <li>• Pre-teach key vocabulary word meanings.</li> <li>• Use a graphic organizer to guide learners through identification of key actions and ideas in each chapter.</li> <li>• Talk to learners about what is happening.</li> <li>• Explicitly teach key comprehension strategies.</li> </ul>

## How to Preview a Book

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Learning Objective or Standard: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

To make sure you do a complete preview of your book before reading it, place a check in the check box as you do each item in the list.



1. **Read the title.** Ask yourself:

- Do I know what this book might be about?
- Does this topic sound interesting?

2. **Read the cover text.** Ask yourself:

- Does the cover give me any clues about the setting, characters or conflict of the book?
- Is there anything about the setting that is familiar to me?
- Do I have anything in common with the characters?
- Is the book about a conflict I have experienced in my OWN life?

3. **Look at the cover picture.** Ask yourself:

- What do I recognize in the picture?
- Does the picture make me think of anything from my OWN life?

4. **Read the Table of Contents.** Ask yourself:

- What do I think each chapter is about?

5. **Look at the pictures, captions and introduction (if there is one).** Ask yourself:

- What do these tell me about this story?
- Does any of this remind me of something I already know? What?

# Computer Book Thought Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

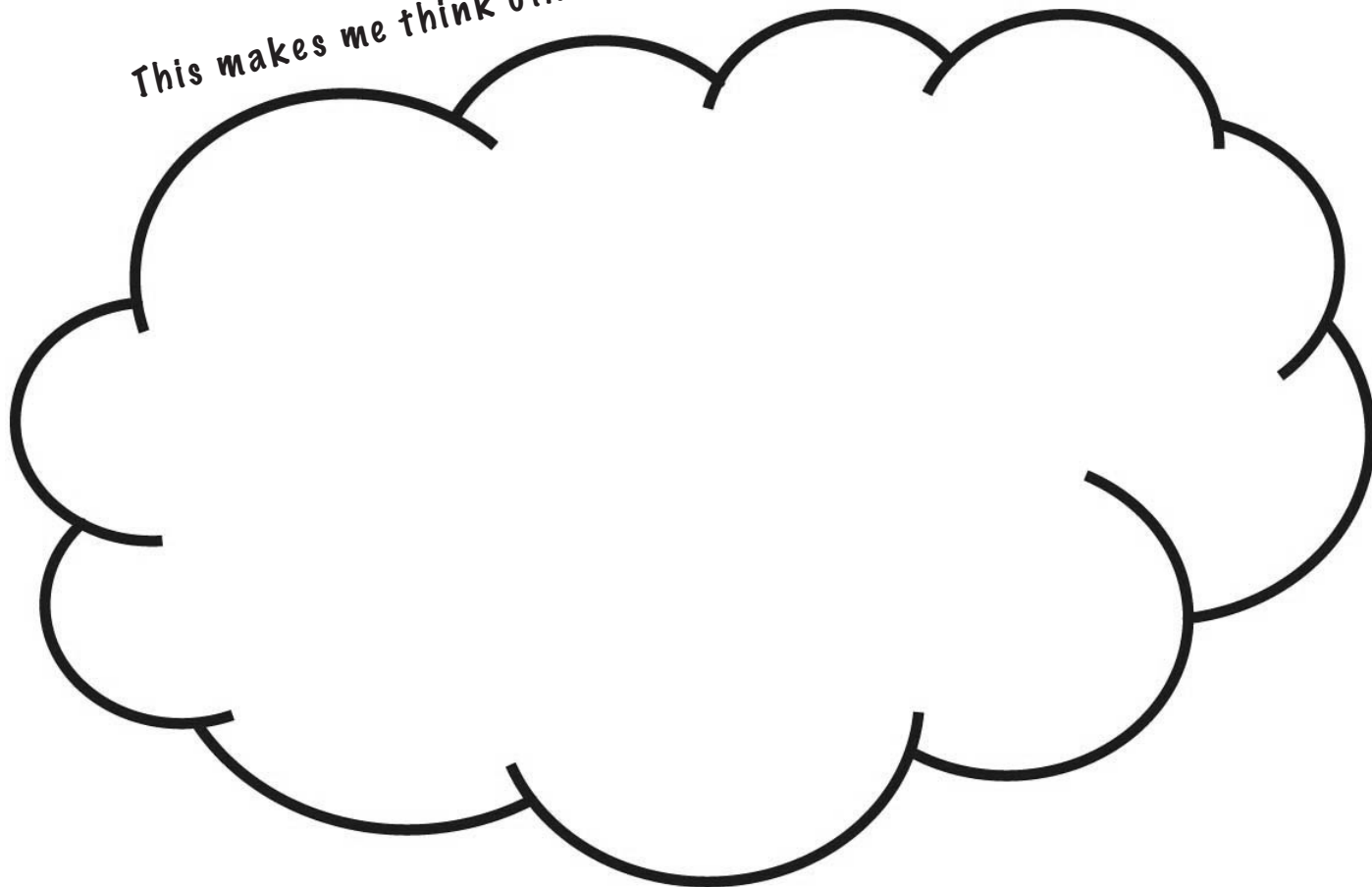
Learning Objective or Standard: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

*I made a connection with...*



*This makes me think of...*



# My Character and Me!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Learning Objective or Standard: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_ My Character's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Character**

Character

Both

Me

**Me**



# Predict and Check Chapter

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Learning Objective or Standard: \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

	Before Reading: Predict	After Reading: Check Your Prediction	Page/Chapter
<b>Characters: Who?</b> Using: <input type="checkbox"/> Front cover <input type="checkbox"/> Back cover <input type="checkbox"/> Book title	<b>Who</b> are the characters in this chapter?	<input type="checkbox"/> Same <input type="checkbox"/> Different	
<b>Setting: Where?</b> Using: <input type="checkbox"/> Front cover <input type="checkbox"/> Back cover <input type="checkbox"/> Book title	<b>Where</b> does this chapter take place?	<input type="checkbox"/> Same <input type="checkbox"/> Different	
<b>Setting: When?</b> Using: <input type="checkbox"/> Front cover <input type="checkbox"/> Back cover <input type="checkbox"/> Book title	<b>When</b> do you think this chapter takes place?	<input type="checkbox"/> Same <input type="checkbox"/> Different	
<b>Conflict/Plot: What?</b> Using: <input type="checkbox"/> Front cover <input type="checkbox"/> Back cover <input type="checkbox"/> Book title	<b>What</b> do you think might happen in this chapter?	<input type="checkbox"/> Same <input type="checkbox"/> Different	
<b>Mood: How?</b> Using: <input type="checkbox"/> Front cover <input type="checkbox"/> Back cover <input type="checkbox"/> Book title	<b>How</b> do you think this chapter will make you feel? <input type="checkbox"/> Scared <input type="checkbox"/> Happy <input type="checkbox"/> Sad _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Same <input type="checkbox"/> Different	