

To Tell the Truth

Why?

- To Tell the Truth elicits students' prior knowledge of the topic of the text.
- To Tell the Truth sets a purpose for reading.
- To Tell the Truth encourages children to monitor their comprehension while they are reading.
- To Tell the Truth leads to better understanding of expository text.
- To Tell the Truth motivates children to read expository text to locate information.

How?

- Select a short nonfiction article/book or biography that supports or enhances the understanding of concepts or ideas in the area of science or social studies.
- Read the article or book ahead of time, selecting pertinent and important information about the topic.
- Write three descriptive scripts for "contestants" to read aloud to the class. Make sure that only one has totally accurate information about the topic. In other words, each participant will proclaim to be the subject of the biography or the scientific concept, etc.
- Students will record their votes on contestant #1, 2, or 3 based on who they think is telling the truth? (Elicits prior knowledge.)
- Students discuss the reasons for their votes.
- The teacher hands out articles/books and asks the students to read to find who is actually telling the truth. (Sets purpose for reading.)
- After reading, the "contestants" reread their scripts and students may change their vote. Discuss reasoning for changing their selection, using supporting details from the text.



1



#2



#3