# Stretching Readers With Texts and Tasks: Corwin Literacy

Reading comprehension is a complex skill that requires students to be able to decode words, understand the meaning of text, and make inferences and connections. In order to develop these skills, students need to be exposed to challenging texts and tasks that push them to think critically and deeply about what they are reading.



### Text Complexity: Stretching Readers With Texts and Tasks (Corwin Literacy) by Douglas Fisher

★★★★★ 4.5 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 7251 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 213 pages



Corwin Literacy is a leading provider of professional development for literacy educators. Corwin's books, articles, and workshops provide teachers with the knowledge and skills they need to help their students become successful readers.

In her book *Stretching Readers With Texts and Tasks*, Corwin author Regie Routman provides a framework for helping teachers use challenging texts and tasks to improve student reading comprehension. Routman argues that

students need to be given opportunities to read texts that are at their instructional level, which is slightly above their independent reading level. These texts should be challenging enough to require students to work hard to understand them, but not so challenging that they become frustrated or discouraged.

Routman also provides a number of specific tasks that teachers can use to help students develop their reading comprehension skills. These tasks include:

- Close reading: Students read a text multiple times, focusing on different aspects of the text each time. This helps them to develop a deeper understanding of the text.
- Critical thinking: Students are asked to analyze and evaluate a text.
   This helps them to develop their critical thinking skills and to form their own opinions about the text.
- Inference and connection: Students are asked to make inferences about the text and to connect the text to their own experiences. This helps them to develop their inferential and connective thinking skills.

Routman provides examples of how to use these tasks in the classroom, and she includes reproducibles that teachers can use to help them implement these tasks in their own classrooms.

Stretching Readers With Texts and Tasks is a valuable resource for literacy educators who are looking for ways to improve their students' reading comprehension skills. Routman's framework is based on solid research, and her tasks are engaging and effective. By using the strategies outlined

in this book, teachers can help their students become more confident and successful readers.

#### **Benefits of Challenging Students With Texts and Tasks**

Providing students with challenging texts and tasks can have a number of benefits, including:

- Increased reading comprehension: Students who are challenged to read difficult texts are more likely to develop strong reading comprehension skills.
- Improved critical thinking skills: Challenging texts and tasks require students to think critically about what they are reading. This helps them to develop their critical thinking skills and to form their own opinions about the text.
- Increased vocabulary: Reading challenging texts exposes students to new vocabulary words. This helps them to increase their vocabulary and to improve their reading comprehension skills.
- Increased motivation: Students who are challenged by their reading assignments are more likely to be motivated to read. This is because they are more likely to find the texts interesting and engaging.

#### **Challenges of Challenging Students With Texts and Tasks**

While there are many benefits to providing students with challenging texts and tasks, there are also some challenges. These challenges include:

Frustration: Students who are not used to reading challenging texts
 may become frustrated. It is important to provide students with the

support they need to succeed, such as scaffolding and differentiated instruction.

- Discouragement: Students who are not successful with challenging texts may become discouraged. It is important to provide students with positive feedback and encouragement, and to help them set realistic goals.
- Time: It takes time for students to develop strong reading comprehension skills. It is important to be patient and to provide students with the time they need to learn.

#### **How to Stretch Readers With Texts and Tasks**

Here are some tips for stretching readers with texts and tasks:

- Provide students with texts that are at their instructional level.
- Use close reading, critical thinking, inference, and connection tasks to help students develop their reading comprehension skills.
- Provide students with the support they need to succeed, such as scaffolding and differentiated instruction.
- Give students positive feedback and encouragement.
- Help students set realistic goals.
- Be patient and provide students with the time they need to learn.

Providing students with challenging texts and tasks is an essential part of helping them to develop strong reading comprehension skills. By following the tips outlined in this article, you can help your students become more confident and successful readers.

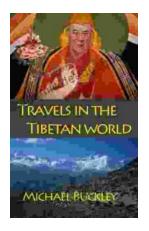


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