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Reading Support Video Podcast



Donna Hi everyone, I'm Donna, your host for this myWorld Interactive video podcast. Joining me today is JESS, a program expert, and teacher.

Jess Hello everyone and welcome to our podcast.

Donna Today, we'll take a look at some of the reading resources within the myWorld Interactive program. Our other guest speaker joining us today is Dee, a classroom teacher and program user. She'll provide real-world tips on how to use these resources in the classroom. Welcome to the podcast, Dee.

Dee Hi everyone. I'm excited to be here. Thanks for inviting me to your podcast.

Donna So, let's get to it. Jess, I know there're a lot of reading support features in the program, but since our time is limited, perhaps you can narrow it down a bit and highlight your favorites?

Jess Sure...umm, I think the best way to outline these features is to show you some examples. I'll pull some up to share on the screen, if that's OK?

Donna Of course.

Jess Dee, as I show the examples, would you mind discussing any practical advice or tips you have for using a particular feature within the classroom?

Dee I'll certainly try my best!

Jess Can everyone see the Big Question image?

**Donna and
Dee** Donna: Yep
Dee: Uuh-hu

Jess Ok great. For me, an essential component of reading comprehension, is setting the context for learning. So one of my favorite features is the Big Question. The Big Question with its accompanying activities and video do a great job activating students' background knowledge.

Donna I suspect the videos would spark their interest and curiosity, too.

Jess They really do, which is sometimes half the battle, right? (everyone laugh)

Dee I completely agree Jess. The videos really get students excited about the upcoming chapter. I like to project the Big Question video to my entire class, and then pause, every so often, to ask questions. I think this really helps activate prior knowledge and also sets the purpose for their reading.

- Donna** I can see how that would help focus attention on key points.
- Dee** It really does.
- Jess** Yep. And, the guided reading support in the Teacher Edition also helps to focus their learning throughout the lesson.
- Donna** Thanks for pointing those out, Jess. Are there any other reading features that you want to highlight?
- Jess** Oh wow, there're so many...like the vocabulary support features.
- Donna** Mmhu, vocabulary really is essential for reading comprehension.
- Jess** Yes, exactly! And the student Realize Reader e-text hyperlinks make it easier for them to access those definitions in English and in Spanish!
- Dee** And that's so helpful for my English language learners!
- Jess** Yep, Dee, that's a good point.

OK....um...another support feature are these **Word Wise** caption boxes...they help teach strategies for working out the meaning of unfamiliar words.
- Dee** Yep, great feature!
- Jess** Then there's the **Reading Checks** that are positioned strategically throughout the text to check student comprehension.
Another feature I like....
- Dee** ...Wait, wait, wait, Jess, before you go on, can I just add that I love these Reading Checks! I sometimes use them as a whole class discussion point to encourage dialogue and connections with the concepts.

- Donna** That sounds like a great idea, can you elaborate, Dee?
- Dee** Sure...well...for instance, in this particular Reading Check, I might pose the question to the *whole class* and then have them take turns sharing their responses.
But then I might take it one step further, by asking for other examples of “needs” and “wants”. These impromptu conversations help my students better understand these key concepts within the context of their own lives.
- Jess** Great suggestion, Dee.
- Donna** Yes, that’s so helpful.
- Dee** Thanks. OK, Jess, I didn’t mean to cut you off...you were saying.
- Jess** No worries...Hmmm, where was I? Oh yeah... I wanted to be sure and point out the **Content Readers** and **Leveled Readers**. Dee, can you tell us about the Content Readers?
- Dee** Absolutely! There is one, on-level, **Content Reader** for each chapter. In Grades K-2 there called **Think Like a Citizen**. These readers focus on citizenship.
- Donna** Learning about Civic responsibility is so important nowadays.
- Dee** I agree Donna.
Although these can be assigned, I sometimes just like to read them aloud to the entire class and then go over the **Think About It** section together.
- Jess** I’m sure that helps solidify their understanding.

- Dee** Yes, Jess...and the ***Citizenship in Action*** section also, because true citizenship is about taking action.
- Donna and Jess** Donna: That's so true!
Jess: For sure!
- Dee** OK, Jess, I'll stop here so you have enough time to highlight the Leveled Readers, which I think are a game-changer.
- Jess** Yes, Dee, they really are. One of my greatest challenges as a classroom teacher was providing differentiated support to the various reading levels of my students. The Leveled Readers make doing that a lot easier.
- There are three Leveled Readers per chapter, ***below-level, on-level, and advance.***
- Donna** Do all three levels cover the same content within the chapter?
- Jess** Great question Donna. Yes, they do.
- Dee** That's correct and very important, because it makes that content accessible to ***all*** students, regardless of their reading level.
- Jess** Exactly!
- Dee** And, the digital version of these Leveled Readers adds yet another layer of differentiation.
- For example, the flip book has a "read to me" option, which I use with my students who have limited English proficiency, but it's also helpful to my struggling readers.
- The flip book also has a zoom, for students with vision problems, and other digital features, like highlighting and the ability to take notes.
- Donna** Oh wow, I didn't know that!

Jess Yep, just one of the many reasons I love them. Another reason is I don't have to create customized lesson plans!

Donna Oh wow.... They have lesson plans?

Jess Yep! Let me show you.

The Leveled Readers have teacher lesson plans for all three levels! They include information on Lexile levels and vocabulary words for each level too.

Donna That's awesome!! Where can I find them?

Jess You can access the Leveled Readers by logging in to Savvas Realize. Simply scroll to the chapter you're on, and look for the **Leveled Readers** folder. Click Teacher Resources to access the teacher lesson plan.

Donna This has really been helpful.

Before we go, I just want to remind viewers that they can access a PDF of this podcast any time on My Savvas Training, just in case they forget something.

Well, it looks like our time is up.

Thanks so much, Jess and Dee, for sharing your extensive knowledge and tips with our listeners. I'm sure they'll find this information very useful.

Jess It was a pleasure.

Dee You're welcome.

Donna And to our audience, Thanks for joining our myWorld Interactive podcast and for helping to enrich the lives of our children.

Until next time, Donna C signing off.