Reading Skills and Strategies is a course is designed to help the struggling reader develop mastery in the areas of reading comprehension, vocabulary building, study skills, and media literacy, which are the course's primary content strands. Using these strands, the course guides the student through the skills necessary to be successful in the academic world and beyond. The reading comprehension strand focuses on introducing the student to the varied purposes of reading (e.g., for entertainment, for information, to complete a task, or to analyze). In the vocabulary strand, the student learns specific strategies for understanding and remembering new vocabulary. In the study skills strand, the student learns effective study and test-taking strategies. In the media literacy strand, the student learns to recognize and evaluate persuasive techniques, purposes, design choices, and effects of media. The course encourages personal enjoyment in reading with 10 interviews featuring the book choices and reading adventures of students and members of the community.

This course is built to state standards and informed by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) standards.

Length: One Semester

Unit 1: Introduction to Reading Strategies

- Course Orientation
- Introduction to Vocabulary Building
- Introduction to Study Skills
- Introduction to Media Literacy
- Introduction to Reading Strategies Wrap-Up

Unit 2: Introduction to Reading Processes

- Reading as a Process
- Introduction to Vocabulary Tools
- Introduction to Time Management
- Introduction to Media Terms
- Introduction to Reading Processes Wrap-Up

Unit 3: Reading for Entertainment: Fiction

- Reading for Entertainment
- Introduction to Context Clues and Word Skipping
- Introduction to Silent Reading
- Introduction to Content and Purpose in Visual Media
- Reading for Entertainment: Fiction Wrap-Up

Unit 4: Reading for Information: Magazine Articles

- Gaining and Retaining Information
- Introduction to Word Roots

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- Introduction to Note Taking
- Introduction to Evaluating Sources of Visual Media
- Reading for Information: Magazine Articles Wrap-Up

Unit 5: Reading for Information: Newspapers

- Introduction to Strategies for Reading Newspapers
- Introduction to Prefixes
- Introduction to Outlining
- Introduction to Comparing Media
- Reading for Information: Newspapers Wrap-Up

Unit 6: Reading for Information: Essays

- Introduction to Reading Essays
- Introduction to Suffixes
- Introduction to Charts and Graphs
- Introduction to Discovering Meaning Through Design
- Reading for Information: Essays Wrap-Up

Unit 7: Reading to Complete a Task: School Texts

- Introduction to Reading School Texts
- Introduction to Spelling Strategies
- Introduction to Memory Strategies
- Introduction to Culture in Media
- Reading to Complete a Task: School Texts Wrap-Up

Unit 8: Reading to Complete a Task: Functional Documents

- Introduction to Reading Functional Documents
- Introduction to Prior-Knowledge Connections
- Introduction to More Memorization Strategies
- Introduction to Persuasive Techniques in Media
- Reading to Complete a Task: Functional Documents Wrap-Up

Unit 9: Reading to Analyze Literature: Poetry

- Introduction to Analyzing Poetry
- Introduction to Synonyms and Antonyms
- Introduction to Test Taking
- Introduction to Media Effects
- Reading to Analyze Literature: Poetry Wrap-Up

Unit 10: Reading to Analyze Literature: Prose

- Introduction to Analyzing Literary Prose
- Introduction to Cubing Vocabulary
- Introduction to More Test-Taking
- Effects of Media on Perception of Reality
- Reading to Analyze Literature: Prose Wrap-Up

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Unit 11: Final Review and Exam

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