Professional Materials Review

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Supporting Struggling Readers is a clear and coherent text illustrating the following points: an interactive view of the reading process; how individual processing, coupled with inappropriate instruction, often reinforces inappropriate literacy strategies; a developmental view of literacy; and instructional methods and authentic assessment procedures to enable us to work together to support struggling readers as they develop.

The text provides interesting, concise examples for instruction designed to aid the struggling reader in a more active reading process. The strategies and activities include the following: graphic organizers, semantic mapping, KWL techniques, questioning, directed reading-thinking activities, the Request technique and Readers Theater. All tie into the author's identifying literacy into five areas — emergent literacy, grounded literacy, expanding literacy, strategic literacy, reflective literacy — resulting in guidelines for instruction.