

Two-Word Strategy

Adapted from *Revisit, Reflect, Retell: Strategies for Improving Reading Comprehension* (Hoyt)

Why?

- Encourages active listening and interaction with the text.
- Facilitates students' reflection and evaluative thinking.
- Connects the students' experiences, thoughts and feelings with the author's message.
- Leads to students' self-monitoring in the area of comprehension.

How?

- Select a passage, short story, picture book or newspaper article that evokes students' thoughts, opinions and connections. Read it aloud, asking students to listen very carefully.
- Allow "wait time," for student reflection and then ask students to choose and record *two words* that reflect their thoughts and feelings about the passage.
- Following a *think-pair-share* format, students read their two words and explain the connection or relationship between the story and their own lives.
- Alternative activity: Students read a selection, choose two words, write the explanation for their choices and then share.



"Hmm, just two words."