Incorporating Literacy Strategies into the Freshman Literature and Composition Classroom

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In the-era of No Child Left Behind and schools needing to meet Adequate Yearly Progress, the issue of reading comprehension has become a top priority in today’s educational world. One method in particular being used to combat the growing illiteracy among our nation’s children is the incorporation of literacy strategies into the study of reading. My study provides one example of the inclusion of two specific literacy strategies, summarizing and connecting, and how teaching these strategies impacted the reading comprehension in my freshman literature and composition classroom. This study was completed using a qualitative self-study approach, and included varying methods of data collection such as field notes, student feedback, and collected student work. Research shows students benefit from the incorporation of these strategies. The findings of this study provide insight into how a student teacher such as myself can incorporate literacy strategies into teaching methods and how the inclusion impacts my students’ continued learning and reading comprehension. These findings are important to the educational field, as research into active incorporation of literacy strategies at the secondary level coupled with the inclusion of such strategies during student teaching are limited.