

Video Eight
Transferring Reading Strategies Using The Language Experience Approach

Tutor: Do you still remember when we created that story about growing peppers?

Student: Mm. Mm.

Tutor: Well, I was online the other day and I saw this article and I thought it would be really interesting for you to see it.

Student: Oh, ok.

Tutor: Ok, so, let's read the headline. California Green Bell Peppers Treated With BioVam Produce Higher Yields.

Thinking aloud

Tutor: I like to read the headline because it lets me think about what I already know. So, judging from the headline, BioVam seems like a chemical or nutrient, so maybe this is about growing vegetables.

Voice over: One way to teach adults how good readers monitor their understanding is to show them how to do it. It is good practice for the tutor to both demonstrate and state the reading skills he is using.

Tutor: So, "These are pictures of green bell peppers grown in the garden area of T&J Enterprises here in Spokane. In most growing seasons we have never been able to get these to mature before the frost comes in the fall. This plant was treated with a teaspoon of BioVam Mycorrhiza inoculant when it was planted in June of 1998." Most of these words are sight words. I recognize them as soon as I see them, but this one right here, the second word, Mycorrhiza, really gave me a lot of trouble. I haven't seen this word before. So what I did was I read it in my head first, sounded it out, and then I read it. So that's what you can do with a lot of words.

Student: Ok.

Tutor: Ok. And here, "With Mycorrhiza sustainable agriculture is a reality." So just looking at all of these pictures and this different flow chart here, we can tell that this article is about growing vegetables and using nutrients and chemicals. So, let's see if we're right! Ok?

Student: Yeah.

Tutor: So in two months ...

Voice over: One way for a tutor to transfer good reading strategies is to discuss the strategies he uses while reading a difficult passage. He does this by talking as he is reading. Strategies include recognizing sight words, sounding out words, using context clues, skimming and predicting, reading headlines, and looking at pictures, etc.