

PROBABLE PASSAGE

Characters

Setting

Problem

Outcomes

Unknown Words

Gist Statement

To Discover...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

PROBABLE PASSAGE

Characters boy birds	Setting sea	Problem gun
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Outcomes guilt jagged ivory bones	Unknown Words plover frost flower quicksilver
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Gist Statement

A boy goes hunting but some birds fly up and they scare him so he shoots and someone else is there and he throws his jagged ivory bones into the sea and feels guilty.

To Discover...

1. Why did the boy have a gun?
2. Whose bones?
3. What is a plover?
4. Did the boy do the shooting or get shot?

Probable Passage forces students to think about the characters, setting, conflict, resolution, and vocabulary of the story before they read the story. As students work through this process, they use what they know about story structure, think about vocabulary, look for casual relationships, and predict what they think will happen.

1. First, choose 8-14 key words. Think about words that fit in the boxes.
2. Then, model the strategy a few times. Students need to hear how you think through this strategy before they can do it well.
3. After reading the story, return to the worksheet to see which of your To Discover questions you can answer. Look to see if you now know the meaning of any words that are in the Unknown Words box. Then ask yourself, How would the author have arranged the words and how would that have changed the gist statement?
4. After you've modeled this with students, let them try it.