



READING FOR MEANING	
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READING FOR MEANING

Reading is integral to academic studies, professional success and personal development. In pedagogic literature reading is recognised as a distinct developmental area in the formative years of schooling.

So far, reading for pleasure has remained more theoretical a concept than an actual educational goal. Millions of children learn reading every year but a large number of them fail to achieve lasting reading skills. Reading for pleasure has remained passive and perfunctory in the school curriculum.

The *National Curriculum Framework- 2005* emphasises the need to focus on reading skills during the primary school years and on creating a print-rich environment in order to encourage reading as a lifelong habit.

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- 1. READING: A PSYCHOLINGUISTIC GUESSING GAME** – A classic by **Kenneth S. Goodman** made a revolutionary statement about ‘errors’ made during reading. He argues vehemently that the so-called ‘errors’ are a window into the workings of the reader’s mind and indicate the cueing system being used by the reader to negotiate the text.
- 2. A PRIMER FOR SCHEMA THEORY** – **P. David Pearson** Explains the concept of schema in the context of reading. The journey from visual information to non-visual information, from text to meaning is charted out in a step-wise manner.
- 3. THE IDENTIFICATION OF MEANING** – **Frank Smith** This article highlights the role of meaning in reading. The journey from visual information to non-visual information, from text to meaning is charted out here.
- 4. ACQUIRING LITERACY IN SCHOOLS** – **Shobha Sinha** A systematic and meticulously done analyses of primers in Hindi which leads to an understanding of the literacy instruction practices in the Indian primary schools.
- 5. WHAT ABOUT READING?** – **Judith M. Newman** The role of non-visual information, prior knowledge, language cueing systems, etc. in reading comes out brilliantly through the illustrative examples.
- 6. THE TEACHING OF READING** – **G. Brian Thompson** This article charts the course of major developments in the field of reading. It considers the debate of what should be taught explicitly in reading.
- 7. READING** – **C. Peter Russell** - Explicates the physiological aspect of reading. The explanations about the eye movement and the manner in which the brain registers visual information during reading supplies the essential information needed on reading.
- 8. WHAT IS READING?** -Report Prepared by – **Richard C. Anderson, Elfrieda H. Hiebert, Judith A. Scott, A.G. Wilkinson** (With contributions from members of the Commission on Reading) gives a very simple and lucid account of what skilled reading constitutes.