

## **Summarization Strategy: Delete-Substitute-Keep**

Many students need instruction in developing effective summaries.

Brown, Campione and Day in 1981 developed a strategy that has been very helpful in teaching students simple rules for summarization. This can be taught in each subject that requires texts to be read and summarized. This strategy is found in Manitoba Curriculum. Here are the steps of the helpful Summarization Strategy outlined for you:

- Delete any unnecessary words, phrases or sentences
- Delete redundant words or sentences that are repeated
- Substitute super-ordinate terms (categories) (for example, "trees" for pines, oaks, and maples; fruits for apples, oranges and bananas)
- Select or create a topic sentence

Each step may take a great deal of initial teacher modeling, guided practice and independent practice. Working in teams can also work effectively. Then have students compare their summaries.

I sometimes suggest that students create a brief email to summarize the topic of the class for someone who is absent. They cannot use more than 25 words to create a power summary.

Some students need summary frames and we will provide some samples for you.

Let us know how the summaries improve over time. Keep some pre-post work samples.

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