

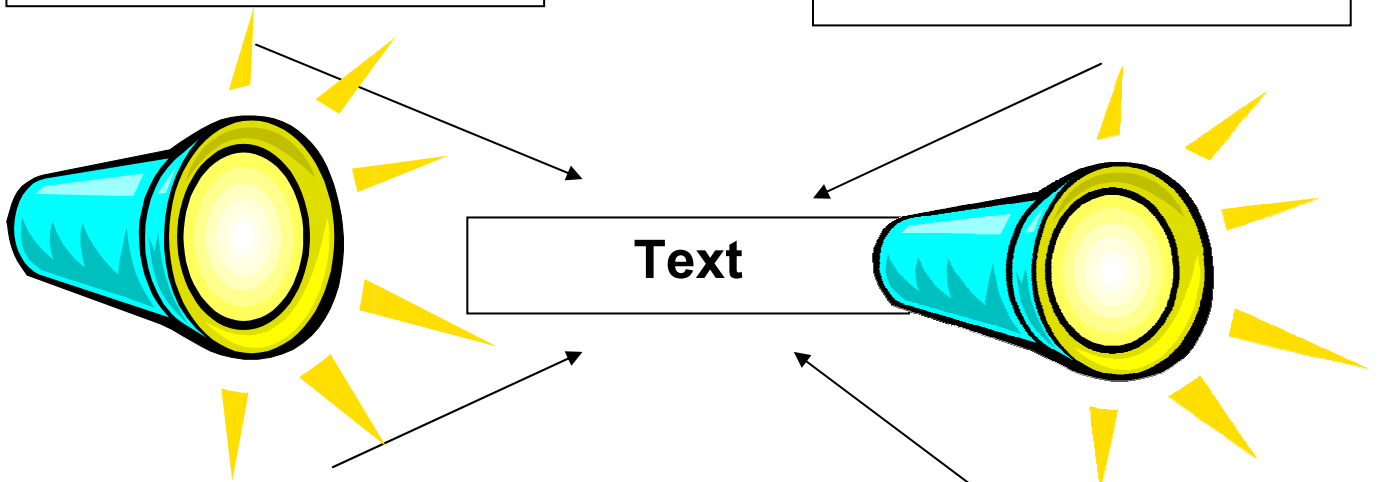
Searchlights: Reading Strategies

Phonic

- Use the initial letter to help you think of a word that makes sense
- Build the word up, then blend the phonemes together
- Look for familiar clusters, digraphs or trigraphs within the words

Grammatical Knowledge

- Rerun from the beginning of the sentence and use awareness of grammar to predict words
- Use awareness of the need for grammatical agreement
- Use the punctuation to get meaning from the text
- Look for familiar prefixes and suffixes
- Read on to the end of the sentence and look for clues



Context

- Look carefully at the pictures
- Have the confidence to make a guess, then check it makes sense
- Read the sentence aloud to check it makes sense
- Predict what the word might be from what's already happened
- Rerun from the beginning of the sentence
- Use prior knowledge of the genre to predict words/phrases
- Use any predictable patterns in the language, e.g. rhyme
- Read on to the end of the sentence and look for clues

Word Recognition and Graphic Knowledge

- Look at the shape of the word
- Look for words within words
- Read the word in 'chunks', then blend them together
- Locate high frequency or familiar words
- Use analogy with known words to solve new words
- Use letters of own name

Children should be taught how to **cross check**, i.e. use various strategies simultaneously. For example, '*Rerun the sentence from the beginning and use the initial letter of the tricky word*'.