

1. Explain, in your own words, why informational reading and writing are important in the primary grades. Prepare a role-play with a classmate where one of you is a parent of a student in your class and the other is the teacher. Through the role-play, defend your choice of spending a large portion of your classroom requisition money on informational texts for your classroom library.
2. Review the instructional strategies in this chapter for helping students to learn from informational text. Which ones do you think would be most helpful for second language learners? Why? Which ones would be most helpful for students who prefer narrative text and have little or no experience with informational text? Why?
3. Choose a piece of informational literature from Appendix A. Read the text carefully and make a list of all the challenges the text might present to native English speakers and another list for challenges to English learners. Read the story to your classmates and then share the list. Have your classmates add to your list. Discuss what makes such text challenging.