

Drawing Inferences

- Explain that drawing inferences is “reading between the lines” – readers use clues in the text and their background knowledge to uncover what the author hasn’t written in words.
- Have students look for text clues in the chapter they have just read. Ask: “What can you infer from these clues?”
- Point out that pictures can also be clues that help a reader to draw inferences from a text. Have students look at the pictures and draw inferences from these. As a group, discuss the inferences they have drawn.
- Remind the students that authors might not explain everything in a text, but instead expect the reader to figure out some things. Ask: “What would happen if the author did explain everything? How would it change the writing?”
- Ask students to make a prediction about the rest of the book – what will happen next?
- Explain that they have just made an inference, because they used what they know about the book already (clues in the text) and their background knowledge to predict.
- Have students think, pair, share about how drawing inferences could help them to understand a text better.

Notes: