Characteristics of Successful Readers

- They plan how they will read.
- They read actively and think about what they are reading.
- They consider the “big picture” or overall structure of what they are reading.
- They note who wrote the piece and when it was written.
- They think about the writer’s intended audience and they ask themselves why it was written.
- They make predictions as they read.
- They ask themselves questions as they read.
- They focus on key ideas and summarize those ideas in their own words.
- They monitor whether they understand or whether they are confused.
- They have strategies to "fix" the situation when they are lost or confused.
- They take the time to look up unfamiliar words and unfamiliar references.
- They avoid reading when tired, stressed, or distracted.
- They read in quiet places that are conducive to concentration.
- They ask for help when needed.