

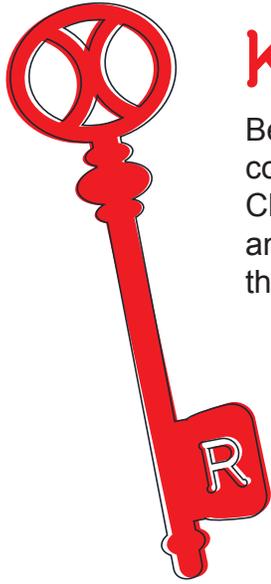
Cross Check-Double Check

Keys to
Accuracy

**Ruby
Reader**

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Cross Check-Double Check



Keys for the Teacher

Beginning readers often think that reading is one long series of words. They continue reading even when decoding breaks down and meaning is lost. Cross Check-Double Check is a strategy that helps students determine if pictures, letters and words make sense and align with what is on the page. Teach children to ask the questions: “Does it sound right? Does it look right? Does it make sense?”

Keys for the Children

Good readers stop when a word doesn’t make sense and try to fix it before beginning to read again.

Lesson

We introduce this strategy using Mr. Cross Check-Double Check. Draw a big X on paper and add a face inside the upper V section of the X. Add a hat on top. Arms can be drawn coming out from the sides. Share with children that “Mr. Cross Check-Double Check’s favorite thing to do is read. He is a very careful reader. When he reads a word that doesn’t make sense, he stops and thinks.” Take your finger and trace the diagonal line on one side of the X; from top to bottom, while you say, “Does it look right?” Then repeat on the other side with another question, “Does it sound right?” Then point to the hat and say, “Does it make sense?”

Show children how they can Cross Check-Double Check using their bodies. Move your right hand across your body and touch the opposite shoulder while you say the word “cross.” Then your left hand moves to the other shoulder while you say “check.” Next, point your right index finger at your right temple as you say “double.” Then point your left index finger at your left temple as you say, “check.” Finally say, “Does it look right? Does it sound right? Does it make sense?”

Now that students have the motion, read a book and make obvious mistakes. After each mistake, stop and practice aloud the complete Cross Check-Double Check process. Encourage students to join in the motions with you.

As with many strategies, introduce the process to the whole group then continue to model the strategy the entire year during read-alouds. It is essential to assess, monitor and re-teach Cross Check-Double Check in strategy groups or while conferring with individual children.

