

Name _____ Title _____ Period _____

Making Inferences

The author doesn't always tell everything about what is happening in a story. Instead, you as the reader must make connections between the story and your own knowledge. You must use your life experiences and be a "visual detective" looking for clues in the story in order to make inferences.

When you make an inference, you add what you already know to what an author tells you. You make inferences to better understand what is happening in a story. Many inferences can be made from what you read. Some inferences can be logical and reasonable, while some are far-fetched and unreasonable. You will need to use common sense.

Here's one way to think about it...

1. Read what the author says, then
2. Think about what you already know, and
3. Make an inference based on your knowledge!



Use clues and your knowledge to make inferences to figure out new information.

Inference-graphic Organizer

What the author says	What I know (your experiences)	My inferences