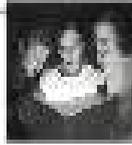# Making Predictions
Cross-Curricular Focus: Study Skills

Before you start reading a story, it is a good idea to make some predictions. Read the title. Think about any connections you can make to the topic. Skim the part you will be reading. Look for any visual aids. A visual aid is something you can look at that helps you understand what you read. Some examples are charts, drawings, and pictures. Look for new vocabulary. Use all of this information to get an **opinion** about what you think is **likely** to happen in the story.

You can make a prediction when you read a textbook, too. The headings and visual aids help you. Think about everything you already know. Decide what you expect to read about. This helps prepare your brain to receive the information.

You cannot be **certain** about your predictions until you read the text. However, they are more likely to be **correct** if you have **evidence** to support your opinion. Many **different** predictions may seem true. As you read, each one is either proven to be an **error** or is proven to be true. You have to read all the text through to the **conclusion**.

When you make predictions, you give your brain places to put the information you will read. This helps you focus on the reading. Your predictions may have sparked some questions in your mind. Your brain searches for the answers to the questions as you read. You don't even have to think about it. Go back to your predictions after you read. Determine if they were correct. If they were incorrect, try to understand why.

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) What is an example of a visual aid?

_____

2) What can you use to support your opinion about what is likely to happen?

_____

3) What is one benefit of making predictions before you begin reading?

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_____

4) What should you do after you finish reading?

_____

5) Name one reading passage or text chapter where you can make predictions before you read.

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