

# The Comprehension Toolkit: Grades 3-6

## components & organization

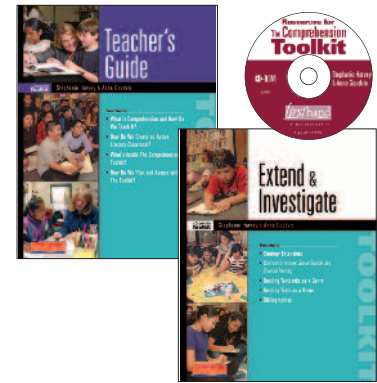
### Professional Support

A series of resources introduce, support, and extend the *Toolkit's* core lessons.

The **Teacher's Guide** outlines the thinking behind the *Toolkit* and describes its components, instructional design, and assessment options.

The **Resources for The Comprehension Toolkit CD-ROM** includes: a video conversation with Dr. P. David Pearson; a photographic overview of an Active Literacy Classroom; and downloadable research articles, templates, assessment masters, and full-color lesson text.

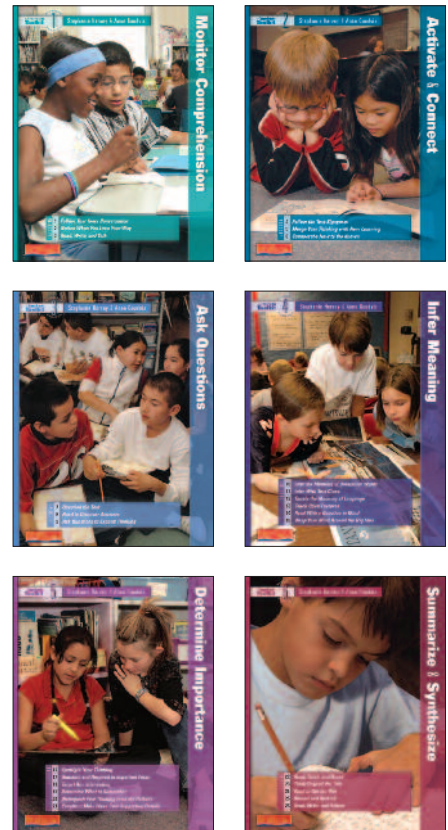
**Extend and Investigate** helps you extend the *Toolkit's* comprehension strategies across the curriculum and throughout the year. It provides strategies for content area reading and research, textbook reading, test reading, and a variety of practical bibliographies.



### 6 Strategy Clusters

The 26 strategy lessons in *The Comprehension Toolkit* are organized into six Strategy Cluster books.

- 1 Monitor Comprehension** identifies ways readers listen to their inner conversations, keep track of their thinking, and monitor their understanding as they read.
- 2 Activate and Connect** alerts students to the impact background knowledge has on their learning and supports them to connect the new to the known.
- 3 Ask Questions** highlights how readers can use questions to clarify unfamiliar ideas and discover new information.
- 4 Infer Meaning** teaches students how to use context clues and text evidence to crack open the new concepts and draw conclusions about the big ideas common to informational text.
- 5 Determine Importance** helps students distill the main ideas and important information from the detailed facts in nonfiction text.
- 6 Summarize and Synthesize** encourages students to go beyond the simple restating of facts so they can use new information to inspire or change their thinking.



### Informational Text

A series of short, engaging, real-world informational texts provide an effective context for using and practicing the *Toolkit's* comprehension strategies.

The **Source Book of Short Text** provides two kinds of nonfiction text: *Lesson Text*, 24 articles from children's magazines; and *Nonfiction Short Text*, 43 short informational articles specially written for the *Toolkit*.

The **Trade Book Pack** contains the seven engaging trade books referenced in the *Toolkit* lessons.

