Two-Column Notes and Inferring

Students must find support in a text for inferences they make. Two-column notes can help with finding that support and recording it. Divide a sheet of paper into two columns using a T-chart format. Label the left hand side “The Text Says” and the right hand side “I Know.” As students are reading, they make inferences and record them in the right hand column. In the left hand column they write quotes from the text that has led them to make the inference they recorded on the right.

Several other headings can be used with the two-column note strategy to increase students’ abilities to make inferences:

• Facts/Inferences

• Quote or Picture from Text/My Inference

• Words in the Text/Prediction of What Will Happen

