

# FORMING EVIDENCE-BASED CLAIMS

**Inquiry Question:** I use my inquiry question to guide my reading and focus my attention on details for answering it.

## SEARCHING FOR DETAILS

As I read, I notice authors use a lot of details and strategies to develop their points and arguments. Below are examples of types of details authors often use in important ways.

### SELECTING DETAILS

I select words or phrases from my search that I think are the **most important** for answering my question. I write the **reference** next to each detail.

#### Author's Facts and Ideas

- Statistics
- Examples
- Vivid description
- Characters/actors
- Events

#### Author's Words and Organization

- Repeated words
- Strong language
- Figurative language
- Tone
- Organizational structure/phrases

#### Opinions and Point of View

- Interpretations
- Explanation of ideas or events
- Narration
- Personal reflection
- Beliefs

### ANALYZING AND CONNECTING DETAILS

I re-read parts of the texts and **think about the meaning of the details** and what they tell me about my question. Then I compare the details and explain **the connections** I see among them.

By reading closely and thinking about the details, I can make connections among them. Below are some ways details can be connected.

#### Facts and Ideas

- Authors use hard facts to illustrate or define an idea.
- Authors use examples to express a belief or point of view.
- Authors use vivid description to compare or oppose different ideas.
- Authors describe different actors or characters to illustrate a comparison or contrast.
- Authors use a sequence of events to arrive at a conclusion.

#### Words and Organization

- Authors repeat specific words or structures to emphasize meaning or tone.
- Authors use language or tone to establish a mood.
- Authors use figurative language to infer emotion or embellish meaning.
- Authors use a specific organization to enhance a point or add meaning.

#### Opinions and Point of View

- Authors compare or contrast evidence to help define their point of view.
- Authors offer their explanation of ideas or events to support their beliefs.
- Authors tell their own story to develop their point of view.
- Authors use language to reveal an opinion or feeling about a topic.

### MAKING A CLAIM

I state a conclusion I have come to and can support with **evidence** from the texts after reading them closely.

As I analyze and connect the details, I can answer my inquiry question based on evidence from the texts.