

## READING

# RAP-Q

To help me understand the main ideas of what I read.

**R**ead a paragraph or a section of the material you are working on.

- Do not read long sections because you may not be able to understand the material if you don't break it up into smaller parts.

**A**sk yourself what the main ideas are.

- Try to find the sentence or sentences that give the most important ideas in the section that you read.

**P**ut the main ideas in your own words.

- Paraphrasing is when you put material that you read into your own words.
- When you paraphrase the main ideas, make sure you try to think of other words to say the same thing as in the book.

**Q**uestions about the reading.

- Based on your paraphrasing of the main ideas, write a question and an answer on the back of a notecard so that you can use this for studying.
- Compare the notecards that you wrote on the main ideas of previous paragraphs or sections so that you can see how the idea of one section is related to the next.

This strategy is based on a strategy presented in Schumaker, J. B., Denton, P., & Deshler, D. D. The learning strategy curriculum. The paragraph strategy. Lawrence, KS: Institute for Research on Learning Disabilities, University of Kansas.

Learning Toolbox. Steppingstone Technology Grant, James Madison University, MSC 1903, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.