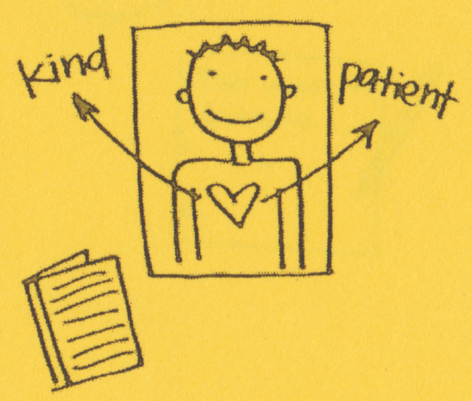
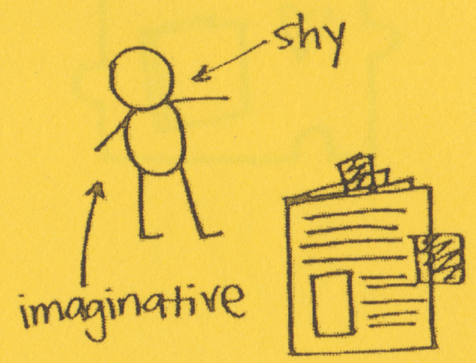
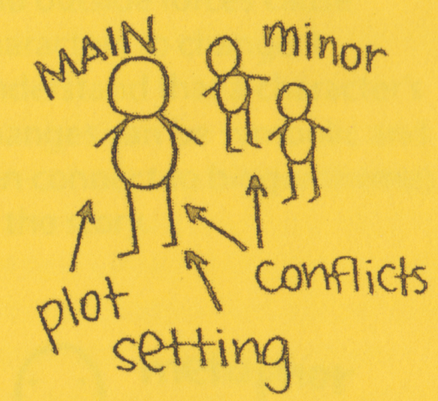
Narrative Reading Learning Progression

	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
			INTERPRETIVE READING		
Inferring about Characters and Other Story Elements *Character Traits*	I notice big things that a character says, does, and thinks, and I think about what this might show about a character's feelings. I think about whether the main character meets with a problem, and if so, how the character solves it. 	I can develop ideas (theories) about the kind of person a character is. I know this means talking about a character's traits (personality), and I'm careful not to confuse the way a character feels for a trait. When a character makes a decision and does something, I can usually figure out why, based on what I know of the character and what happened earlier. 	I keep in mind that characters are complicated. For example, I might think about how the character is different on the outside than the inside or in one part of the story or in one relationship than another. I'm interested in what *really* drives a character to make the decisions or take the actions he or she takes. What does the character *really* want? I know that a character's action will sometimes seem small (closing a door) but will actually signal a deeper meaning. 	I can see places in a story where the characters are not what they seem at first. For example, the character might say or act as if he or she doesn't care, but readers see signs that he or she really does. That is, I see hidden sides to characters. I know that what drives the character (his or her motivation) can be complicated. There may be several things that drive or pressure a character, and often he or she is pulled in conflicting ways. 	I continue to develop theories about main and minor characters, thinking how they are affected by other story elements such as the plot, setting, issues, and conflicts. 

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