## NON-FICTION SIGNPOSTS SUDY GUIDE

## TEST THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017

Non-fiction is about *real people & the real world*, examples: history, medicine, biology, nature, animals, etc.

Non-fiction can be shown through graphs, diagrams, timelines, figures, captions, photos, signs, and text

## 3 BIG QUESTIONS

## 1. What surprised me?

* I was shocked about… I never thought… I could not believe…

## 2. What did the author think I already knew?

* I did not know… I was confused by… The author assumed I knew…

## 3. What challenged changed or confirmed what I knew?

* At first I thought but… I had to rethink… I was right/wrong about…
* My understanding changed when…

## NON-FICTION SIGNPOSTS

* CONTRASTS AND CONTRADICTIONS – A *difference* between:

1. What *you know* and what is happening in the text
2. Two things in the text

Ask yourself the Anchor Question: What is the difference and why does it matter?

Signal Words – yet, on the other hand, however, by contrast, although, even though, still, instead

* ABSOLUTE AND EXTREME LANGUAGE- language that leaves no doubt, exaggerates or pushes the limit

Ask yourself the Anchor Question: Why did the author say it like that?

Anchor answers – a) words show the strength of the authors feelings, b) the author may be exaggerating c) the author may be deceiving or misleading wanting the reader to think a certain way

Signal Words – never, always, completely, unconditionally, very, without a doubt, absolutely

* NUMBERS AND STATS- specific number words or amounts such as percentages, fractions, dates, time

Ask yourself the Anchor Question: Why did the author include those number or number amounts?

* QUOTED WORDS - When you notice when the author quotes a “Voice of Authority” or “Personal Perspective”
  + - Voice of Authority – more detached voice, usually is an expert in the field, uses much technical talk and usually has a title attached to his or her name
    - Personal Perspective – provides an up-close personal look at events, written from a first person perspective, uses the pronoun “I” this person has no expertise, and uses no technical talk, but words show feelings and emotions

Ask yourself the Anchor Question: Why did the author quote or cite this person; and what do the quoted words add?

* WORD GAPS – when the author uses a word or phrase you don’t know

## Ask yourself one of the Anchor Question:

* Do I know this word from someplace else?
  + The word may have multiple meanings
* Does this sound like technical talk from experts on this topic?
  + I may need a dictionary, an easier text on the subject, help from a parent or teacher
* Can I find clues in the sentence to help me understand this word?
  + Try to find the ‘gist” or main meaning of the text, also look for context clues