

## Making Inferences

When you make inferences, you increase your understanding by making judgements, drawing conclusions, and reasoning about text. Readers make inferences by combining what they already know with information or clues provided by the writer. Making inferences can help readers draw conclusions or make judgments about the text. One good way to make inferences is to focus on the conclusions you are drawing while you read. You may confirm or alter your inferences as you continue reading. As your understanding about what you are reading evolves, your thinking might change.

What readers infer about fiction:

- Moral
- Setting
- Characters' traits, moods, motivations, values, or beliefs
- Author's or characters' bias or perspective
- Missing details
- Preceding events

What readers infer about nonfiction

- Main ideas
- Missing details
- People's moods, motivations, values, or beliefs
- Author's or people's bias or perspective
- Preceding events