

PURPOSE: The strategies help students locate and use graphical features to support their comprehension of text information. Students look for various features such as maps, flow charts, pictures, timelines, etc. in a number of texts. Then they learn to use these features to help them understand the written text.

Strategy 1 Instructions for Locating Graphical Features

- Using the “Graphical Features Scavenger Hunt” handout, students record the location of various features.
 - **NOTE:** These features vary in the way they are presented. For instance, various books display timelines, scales, or charts differently. The functions of these graphics are similar; a timeline presents events in chronological order even though the graphics vary.

Strategy 2 Instructions for Evaluating Usefulness of Graphical Features to Support Understanding

- After learning the various features, students explain the usefulness of the feature. Students tell how each graphical feature helps support their understanding of the text. In addition, students need to name the features they locate.
 - Use the Florida Center for Research graphic organizer #C.014-SS2, “Text Feature Find,” after introducing the features.
 - **NOTE:** Often students can easily locate the features, but they have difficulty using these features to support learning from the text.

Facilitator Note: Some of the graphic organizer handouts are student resources that are used with permission from the Florida Center for Research: home page <http://www.fcrr.org>