

Summer Reading Tip #7 Video Transcript Cherry Hill Public Schools

Hello Cherry Hill friends, this is Miss Pennington, Russell Knight's Literacy Teacher coach here with today's reading tip.

Good readers summarize parts of text as they read. This is important because the job of the reader is to pull out the most vital information from the text. Readers need to take this information and put it into their own words by focusing on the main idea and key details. Be aware that summarizing is different from a retelling of the entire story. Let me give you an example. I am going to do a book share and it's one of the books that I read this summer. It's called *Blended* and it's by Sharon Draper. She's the author who wrote *Out of My Mind* and *Stella by Starlight*.

This book is about a girl named Isabella. She's an eleven year old with biracial parents. Her parents get divorced which causes her to deal with juggling two different households, new step parents, different neighborhoods, cultures, and even socioeconomic differences or lifestyles all while trying to figure out where she belongs in the world growing up biracial.

As if feeling different and being pulled in different directions isn't bad enough, the turning point of the story comes when Isabella has a terrible experience involving the police. This is an extremely sensitive story that's sometimes funny but it clearly deals with very important concepts like identity development, family dynamics, and social commentary. This book is for a mature 5th grader or middle schooler because it talks about some delicate concepts, however concepts that are very important in our society today.

So there you have it, a summary. So remember, when summarizing a favorite book, remember to only tell the most important parts, the main idea, and key details, and not a retelling of the whole story. And don't forget to get lost in a book this summer.