READING WORDS & PICTURES

Pre-visit Classoom Lesson

Objectives
- Students identify everyday examples of pictures (alone or with words) that have a message.
- Students compare highly detailed realistic pictures with simplified or abstract pictures.

Preparation
Preview the Reading Words and Pictures PowerPoint presentation. Decide whether you will supplement the PowerPoint by bringing in everyday examples of pictures used to communicate, such as pictorial signs around the school, pictures of the school mascot, posters, greeting cards, children's books and textbook, CD, DVD or video game covers, etc.

Visit Degrees of Abstraction
(Click "Present" to begin.) For secondary grades, you may wish to use the examples of increasingly abstracted landscape paintings.

Activities
As you show the "Reading Words and Pictures" presentation, lead students in a discussion responding to the questions. Ask students to practice "reading" everyday pictures you may have brought to class. Extend the discussion by asking students to identify pictures with many realistic details, simple pictures with few details and pictures in which parts are changed (distorted or exaggerated).