Features of Text

Yvonne and David Freeman
The University of Texas at
Brownsville

Text Level Features of Text

- Academic texts are often supplemented by formatting and other features
 - font size or color
 - bold
 - labeled photograph
 - labeled diagram
 - cross sectional diagram
 - cycle and pie chart
 - timeline

Teaching Features of Text

- 1. Teachers examine textbooks to identify features of texts that can support readers as they construct meaning.
- 2. Teachers identify books that contain different features. They sequence the books so that each feature is presented from easiest to most difficult.
- 3. Teachers introduce the books to students over time, pointing out key features.

Learning about Features of Text

- 1. Students work in teams to find additional examples in their books of the features the teacher has presented.
- 2. Students include features they have studied in reports they create. They explain which features they have included.