FORMING EVIDENCE-BASED CLAIMS

Inquiry Question: I use my inquiry question to guide my reading and focus my attention on details for answering it.

SEARCHING FOR DETAILS
As I read, I notice authors use a lot of details and strategies to develop their points and arguments. Below are examples of types of details authors often use in important ways.

SELECTING DETAILS
I select words or phrases from my search that I think are the most important for answering my question. I write the reference next to each detail.

ANALYZING AND CONNECTING DETAILS
By reading closely and thinking about the details, I can make connections among them. Below are some ways details can be connected.

Facts and Ideas
- Authors use hard facts to illustrate or define an idea.
- Authors use examples to express a belief or point of view.
- Authors use vivid description to compare or oppose different ideas.
- Authors describe different actors or characters to illustrate a comparison or contrast.
- Authors use a sequence of events to arrive at a conclusion.

Words and Organization
- Authors repeat specific words or structures to emphasize meaning or tone.
- Authors use language or tone to establish a mood.
- Authors use figurative language to infer emotion or embellish meaning.
- Authors use a specific organization to enhance a point or add meaning.

Opinions and Point of View
- Authors compare or contrast evidence to help define their point of view.
- Authors offer their explanation of ideas or events to support their beliefs.
- Authors tell their own story to develop their point of view.
- Authors use language to reveal an opinion or feeling about a topic.

MAKING A CLAIM
I state a conclusion I have come to and can support with evidence from the texts after reading them closely.

As I analyze and connect the details, I can answer my inquiry question based on evidence from the texts.