# Defining Comprehension Skills

#### **Author's Point of View:**

- Identify who is telling the story
- First Person
  - Pronoun clues: I, me, my
- Third Person
  - Pronoun clues: he/she, him/her, it

# Sequence:

- When events take place
- The order in which events take place
- · Clue Words: first, then, next, after, later, before, at last

# **Fact and Opinion:**

Provable statements vs. statements of preference based on facts

#### Main Idea and Details:

- What the writing is about
  - Clue: check the first sentence of the piece or paragraph
- · Details help reader understand the main idea
  - Gives examples, facts, opinions, descriptions, reasons, or definitions
  - Compares and contrasts ideas

# **Compare and Contrast:**

Using the familiar to understand the unfamiliar

#### Cause and Effect:

- What happened and why?
- Helps reader anticipate or predict outcomes
- Applies to events and characters

#### Classify and Categorize:

- Identifying relationships of actions, events, or characters
- Putting like things or ideas together

# **Author's Purpose:**

- To entertain
- To inform
- To explain
- To persuade

#### **Drawing Conclusions:**

- "Reading between the lines"
- Put small pieces together to make a statement about a character or event

#### **Making Inferences:**

To get the big picture
Text + background knowledge = deeper meaning

