

MODELING / MINI-LESSON

1. Tell students that there are different kinds of transition words. Explain that one kind of transition word is **time transitions**, which help the reader know the order of events in a text. Another kind of transition word is **thought transitions**, which help the reader to understand the logical relationships in a text.

2. Discuss how using different transition words changes the meaning of a sentence. Use the following 2 sentence strips:
Dad and I went fishing.
Mom made our lunch.

Show students how you can connect the sentences by adding transition words. For example:

Dad and I went fishing. / Meanwhile / Mom made our lunch.
After / Dad and I went fishing, / Mom made our lunch.
Before / Dad and I went fishing, / Mom made our lunch.
Dad and I went fishing / after / Mom made our lunch.
While / Dad and I went fishing, / Mom made our lunch.
Discuss how the different transition words change the meaning of the sentences by changing the sequence (order) of events.

3. Next discuss how different types of transitions signal different types of relationships. It is helpful to begin with transitions that signal a type of logical relationship that students are already familiar with, such as comparison and contrast.

Show students how you can connect the sentences by adding transition words, and that the transition words signal a specific relationship between the two sentences.

4. Encourage the students to use the Transitions Chart to record different groups or categories of transitions, what they mean, and example sentences.