

Inferences

Apply In:

- Leveled Book: *A Nation of Immigrants*
- Leveled Book: *All Across America*

1 Reteach

Call on a volunteer. Smile as you whisper something nice in the student's ear, pat the student on the back, and shake his or her hand. Then ask the group: **What do you think I whispered? Did I give the student a compliment—say something nice—or did I tell the student that he (she) has won an award?**

Explain that both guesses are possible based on the clues. Remind students that clues are little pieces of information that they see or hear—such as whispering or patting someone on the back. List the clues and what they could mean:

Clue	What It Could Mean
smile	happy
pat on the back	good job
shake hands	congratulations

Explain inference: **When you use what you know to make a good guess, you make an inference. You made an inference about what I said to the student. You saw the clues, thought about what you know, and made a good guess.**

2 Practice with a Partner

Have pairs of students be detectives. One student gives clues from the list below. The other student makes one or more inferences. Then partners switch roles.

- stage, singers, audience (concert, school show)
- jerseys, shin guards, balls (soccer game, sports store)
- bus, passengers, driver (going to school/on a trip)

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3 Apply

Distribute copies of the **Inferences Bookmark**. Explain that students should refer to the Bookmark as they read. Then form groups.

- ▶ **Beginning Readers** read silently or aloud with a partner.
- ▶ **More Fluent Readers** read silently.

After reading, bring groups together to make inferences about the stories. Use the **Multi-Level Strategies** to support students at all proficiency levels.

BEGINNING	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
Help students make inferences about the people in <i>A Nation of Immigrants</i> . On page 10, say: David Chia has won many teaching awards. Does this clue mean that he is a good athlete or a good teacher?	Help students who read <i>All Across America</i> make inferences. On page 8, ask: Do you think it was hard for pioneers to cross America? Does the author say it was hard? (no) How do you know?	Have partners take turns making inferences about the people in <i>All Across America</i> . Encourage them to identify clues and explain how they combined the clues with what they know to make each inference.

Record students' ideas in a chart, for example:

Story Clue	What I Know	Inference

Have students use the chart to make inferences about other people in the books.

CLOSE AND ASSESS

Have students tell how to make an inference. (use clues and what you know to make a good guess)

Inferences

When you make **inferences**, you make good guesses. To make inferences:

- Read carefully.
- Think about what the author says.
- Use clues and what you know to guess what the author means.

Adji was doing his math homework. He sighed and turned the pages in his math book again.

Sometimes I sigh when I don't understand. I think Adji is having trouble.



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