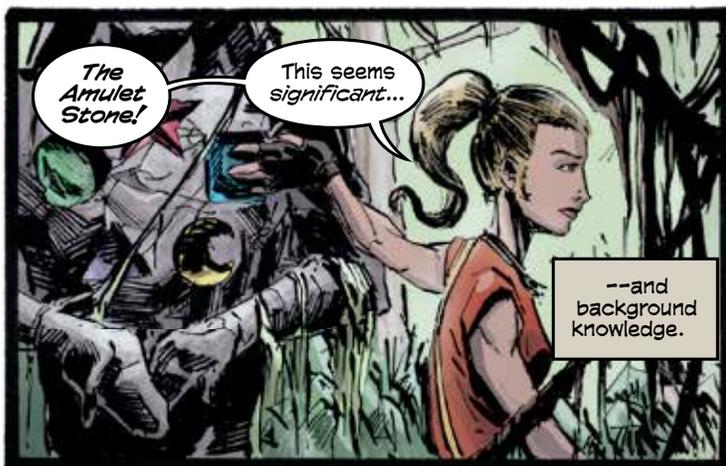




PRESENTS

# DISCOVERING LITERACY THROUGH COMICS

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Comics are also *multimodal* texts, combining vivid images and brief bursts of prose to create a complex, yet unified, story.



To do so, comic authors and artists use strategies like captions, word bubbles--



This better work.

--sound effects, ementas--



--and *gutters* to boost comprehension and create a visually pleasing reading experience, both *within* and *between* each panel.



Whoa!

For struggling readers especially, this can greatly increase *engagement*, *understanding*, and *retention* of content.



Guess I'm heading down.

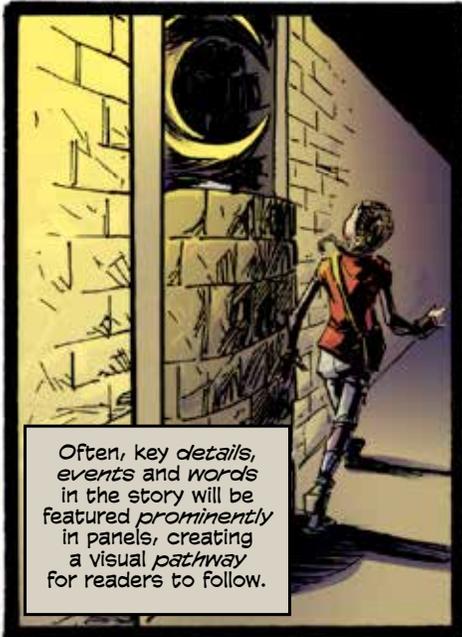


Sequencing, determining importance, and synthesizing are additional reading comprehension strategies strengthened through comics.

By dividing stories into easily recognizable segments, comics help readers better identify key details, themes, characters, plot developments, main ideas, and other literacy elements.

Readers must also infer what happens in the spaces between each panel, or gutters, by reflecting on prior content while critically thinking about changes in time, setting, story arc, and character motivation.

Even when comics seem poorly drawn or unorganized (like this page), readers can often find verbal and visual clues that help reinforce content and build suspense.





Comics' *synthesis* of visual and textual clues also helps facilitate *cognitive associations* and *abstract thinking* throughout the reading experience.



Well, that sequence didn't work.

Perhaps their *size* was a clue?



Even when comprehension *breaks down*, these clues can support *recall* *problem solving*--



It's **OPENING!**

--so that readers can gain a deeper *understanding* of content.



Finally, comics can help evaluate *gaps* in reading comprehension by encouraging *reflection* and *summarization* of content.

Overall, comics offer an *excellent* tool for creating and supporting a *love of reading* for all types of learners, helping students with--



--prediction--



--synthesis, sequencing--



*At last!*  
It all makes sense now.



--key details, inference--



--and critical thinking through *images*, *text*, or a *combination* of the two.