

Imagine how easily I could bring learning to life for my struggling readers with a ProMax document camera. Struggling readers and second-language learners make up 25 % of our school population. Without every advantage possible, these students will fall further and further behind in becoming competent readers. They can not capture the information being presented in their science, history, and geography classes because it is locked away in texts that they cannot read.

I can help them access this information in reading class as we read stories about topics in geography, history, science, folklore and more every day. Yet my students do not get the full benefit of this instructional intervention because they lack the background knowledge to make personal connections to what they are reading.

With a ProMax document camera, I can bring the world to them and make the words on the page come to life! They can see the brilliant colors in a coral reef when we read about scuba divers; they can see the Ituri rainforest, the Atacama Desert, and the Japanese snow monkeys when we read about geographical wonders; they can see the old North Church tower and the villages of Lexington and Concord as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow brings them to life in *Paul Revere's Ride*; or actual fossils as we read about the Crustacean Period. I have many wonderful print and photo resources available, but my school lacks the technology to allow me to use them in my classroom in such a way that all students can easily see the illustrations.

Oh, the places we'll go and the places we'll see with a ProMax document camera! Help me and the other reading teachers at my school open up our amazing world (and the world of reading) to our struggling readers and second-language learners.