15 Classroom Language: Checking for Understanding

step-by-step

afraid → scared

afraid ↘ frightened

rephrase

effect

cause

Section 8.1: **Check for Understanding**

In kindergarten, students are still learning how to learn. This **process** can be hard for some students. Make sure you don't **leave** any students **behind**.

When students don't understand something, try **explaining** it **another way**. Sometimes you may just need to **rephrase** things. For more complicated lessons, use a **step-by-step** approach. Don't make your students learn the entire thing at once. **Walk through** each part of the lesson individually. Afterwards, have students describe what they learned **in their own terms**.

It's also important to **ensure** students understand rules. For safety rules, teach students about **cause** and **effect**. Make sure they see the **relationship** between an action and harm. For example, if you run with scissors, you might cut yourself. Ask students about classroom rules. Say, "**tell me about** why we don't run with scissors." If they repeat the rule exactly, ask them to explain it. Make sure they're not just reciting what they heard.

Get ready!

① Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

1 When should you check for understanding and why?

2 How can you help students understand better?

Reading

② Read the textbook section. Then, mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

1 ___ Repeating an explanation the same way is the best way to ensure understanding.

2 ___ For complicated lessons, teachers should review the full lesson before the steps.

3 ___ Students should understand cause and effect for safety rules.

Vocabulary

③ Match the words or phrases (1-6) with the definitions (A-F).

1 ___ cause   4 ___ leave behind
2 ___ effect   5 ___ walk through
3 ___ process   6 ___ explain another way

A to describe something differently because someone didn't understand it

B to continue without someone

C the result of an action or event

D a way of doing something

E an action or event that makes something happen

F to explain something thoroughly