*Session 6*

**Focus**: Good readers empathize to understand a character’s feelings

**Materials**: student’s books, pencil, journal/stickies

**Genre**: Fiction

**Before reading mentor says**:

* Tell me how your day is going. Is there anything coming up this week that you are excited about?
* Last week, we focused on figuring out a character’s feelings by noticing how they act, speak, and think. Today, we are going to better understand a character by empathizing with them.
* Do you know what it means to empathize? When you empathize with a character, it means you understand exactly how they are feeling because you have felt a similar way. It might have been a different experience, but you can nod your head when you read and think, “I know how you feel!”

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| **During reading**: (use same book from last week or new one) | **Writing activities**: |
| -Can we tell what this character is thinking from what they are saying? (re-read a part of dialogue in the character’s voice)-What made the character feel this way? Have you ever been through something like this? I have. Let me tell you about a time I felt the same way…Exemplar response: I think Henry feels frustrated because he can’t find Mudge. I’ve felt frustrated before when I couldn’t find my sister when we were playing hide and seek. | -Now let’s practice empathizing with a character by writing about it.Sentence frame:(character name) feels \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I have felt the same way when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.I can empathize with (character name) because one time I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. |

**After reading**: Remember, whenever you notice how a character is feeling, try your best to connect with the character by thinking about a time you felt the same way. It might have been a different situation or a similar situation. Good readers understand a story by having empathy for characters.

**Closing**: Thank you for working with me today. I enjoyed our time together and I am so proud of the work you are sharing with me. I will return next (day of the week) to work with you. Please remember the following:

1. Fill out the teacher/mentor communication log
2. Check the school calendar for upcoming events
3. Check your personal calendar to determine scheduling conflicts. Remember, students are eager await your arrival and their mentoring time with you.
4. If you have any questions or concern, please share them with a school employee (teacher, counselor, assistant principal or principal, etc.) before leaving the building.