Throughout elementary school, students love story time. Books open a world of possibilities, and teachers play an important role in helping students understand and appreciate literature. Annotation is a proven strategy for students to analyze texts, and it inspires them to become lifelong learners.

When Teresa Silva sat down to complete the On-Demand Module *Annotation as an Interactive Reading Strategy*, she questioned if the advanced skill would be relevant for her first graders. As it turns out, annotation accelerates verbal skill development if it is taught early on. Grade-specific examples in the module helped Teresa to “visualize teaching it, and made it seem possible.”

Equipped with the example from the On-Demand Module, Teresa started annotating with her students. Now, her first graders are more analytical, and are applying the strategy to informational texts which help them engage with the real world. “Annotation is an important skill,” Teresa says, “because understanding how to read is essential—not just because they need it for school, but for life in general.”

“I hope to be an inspiration to my students by motivating them to become lifelong learners.”

**Teresa Silva**  
First grade teacher at Academia del Pueblo