

## Reader Response Theory

- There is **no “preconceived meaning”** that lives in the text and must be unlocked
- Reading is a **dynamic process** (the coming together of the text and the reader sets the text in motion). Meaning may therefore differ from one reading to the next
- **Meaning is unique** and affected by reader context, disposition, age, and the child's reality
- **Sentences are the “component parts”** although they are unique in literary text in that they are work together and form expectations of future
- Authors give us some information, but never the whole story, the reader must **engage their own imagination** to fill in the details, this is the emotional or active nature of text
- Reader continuously engages with the text to fit the pieces together and seeks consistency, **“to make meaning”** (why he/she often feels involved despite context being very removed from reality)

