OPIN Activity

1. **Choose a story** that may or may not be nonfiction and is short enough to read to the students in about 20 minutes or less.
2. **Identify two or three stopping points** in the story where students would be able to guess what happens next. Mark those points in the story.
3. Create a **cloze activity** out of the last few paragraphs. That is, retype the last few paragraphs, leaving a dozen blanks where words have been removed. Make a copy of this sheet for each student, but do not hand them out until you reach the last break in the story.
4. **Begin reading the story** out loud to the students, pausing at the first break. Ask the students to write down on a sheet of paper what they think happens next. If you wish, have them compare what they guessed with someone else in the room, but after a minute or so, ask if anyone would like to tell the class what they think happens next. Let four or five of the students share their thoughts.
5. **Begin reading again** and pause again, doing the same thing you did before.
6. **Pause one last time** and give each student a copy of the cloze sheet. Instruct them to work alone and fill in the blanks, guessing what words might best fit in each case and skipping those they can't figure out.
7. **Have them pair up** and compare what they put in the blanks. Instruct them to high five with their partner if they have the same answer. If they have different words, but the meaning is the same, have them high five. If they have different words and the meanings seem different, instruct them to defend their answers. If they can't agree at that point, have them move on.
8. **Finally, read the last paragraphs to them** slowly enough so they can check their answers. Then, once you have finished, you can hold any kind of discussion you want about the story.

OPIN will, through the use of prediction, invest students in the story and in the topic under discussion. It is a play on the word **OPIN**ion and plays on the words **OPEN** and "cloze."