**Observations, Inferences, and Predictions**

As readers, we are able to make observations, inferences, and predictions to gather information from and understanding of a text. In order to use these strategies effectively, we must recognize the differences between them.

* An **OBSERVATION** is what you can clearly see within a text based on what *the author is telling you*.
* You make an **INFERENCE** when you use information from the text *AND* what you know to figure out something about the text the author didn’t tell you.
* A **PREDICTION** is made when you use what you know from the text to make an *educated guess* about what will/could happen next.

**Consider the picture below:**



**Observation:** *Outside of the house there is a pile of leaves and a rake leaned up against a tree.*

**Inference*:*** *Somebody has raked the leaves from the tree.*

**Prediction:** *The children will jump in the leaf pile.*

**Now you try!**

**Observation:**

**Inference:**

**Prediction:**

**Directions:** Use the graphic organizer below to record what you see, know, infer, and observe while reading *The Bear Boy*.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **What I See** | **What I Know** | **What I Infer** | **What I Predict** |
|  |  |  |  |