



ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S READING

Please use this pull-out section to keep as a reference point for when you listen to your child read

SEEING OURSELVES AS READERS

When sharing books with your child as they are beginning to read a few words for themselves, there is still plenty you can discuss about the book itself:

- What is happening in the story?*
- Can you point to the author's name?*
- Can you find the title on the front cover?*
- Can you find the letters from your name in this book?*
- Can you use the pictures to retell me the story?*
- Can you find any of the sounds we have been learning?*
- Can you join in with me as I read the story again?*
- Look how I am using my finger to point to the words. Can you point to them for me this time as I read?*
- Are there any of your key words here that you can spot?*



FINDING AND UNDERSTANDING INFORMATION

- Where does this story take place?*
- When did the story take place?*
- Who are the main characters in this book?*
- What happened in the story?*
- What is happening at this point in the story?*
- Read the part that tells me.....*
- Where did you find the information about....?*



INFERRING OR INTERPRETING INFORMATION

- What makes you think that?*
- What words give you that impression? Why?*
- How do you feel about.....? Why?*
- Can you explain why.....?*
- What does this tell you about whatwas thinking?*
- Through whose eyes is the story told?*
- Predict what you think is going to happen next. Why do you think this?*
- Is this a place you could visit? Why?/Why not?*
- How did one of the characters change during the story?*
- What is your opinion of...? What evidence do you have to support your view?*
- Using all the evidence available, can you tell me what you feel about....?*



IDENTIFYING AND COMMENTING ON THE STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

What kind of text is this? How do you know? What can we expect of a book of this type?

How does the layout help the reader?

In the leaflet, how have the different parts been made clear?

How do you know the order to follow the information?

Why have these words been made to stand out?

What are the subheadings for?

Why have some words in the glossary been printed in italics?

How are the beginning and ending of the story similar?

What would happen if the order of events was changed?

What is the main event of the story? Why do you think this?

Were you surprised by the ending?

How did you think it should end/should have ended?



EXPLAINING AND COMMENTING ON THE WRITER'S USE OF LANGUAGE

What do these words tell you about.....?

What did the writer intend by using these words?

What do these words mean? Why did the writer choose them?

How has the author used adjectives to make this character funny?

How does the author make the.....appear frightening?

What do the descriptions of the characters tell us about how they are feeling?

Which part of the story best describes the setting?

Explain what you think this phrase adds to the story.

Why did the author choose this title?

What is the effect of writing in the past/present tense?

Which author's style did you enjoy the most? Why?



IDENTIFYING AND COMMENTING ON THE WRITER'S PURPOSE AND THE EFFECT ON THE READER OF THE TEXT

Why has the writer decided to.....?

Why did the author choose this setting?

Why do you think the writer wrote that description?

What was the most exciting part of the story?

How do the views put across in this text affect your views on.....?

Do you think that the writer believes that exist?

What was the author trying to tell you about.....by writing this section in?

What impression of..... does the first paragraph give?

These texts try to make you care about..... Which do you think is the most effective? Why?

What is.....opinion about.....?



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RELATING TEXTS TO THEIR SOCIAL, CULTURAL OR HISTORICAL CONTEXTS

*Do you know another story which deals with the same issues?
What does this remind you of?
Have you ever been in that situation?
How would you have felt in the same situation?
How would you feel if you were treated like.....? What would you do?
What do you think would have happened if.....?
What kind of text is this? How do you know? What will it be like?
Many traditional tales have messages. What do you think this story is trying to say?
Do you know another story with these/similar characters in?*

