Lower School Independent Reading Program
How to Engage with Your Reader

When parents ask questions during reading, it helps children become active readers and builds comprehension skills. Below is a list of several questions you can ask your children while they read:

- Who are the characters in the book? Are any of them more important than the others? How do you know?
- Describe/Explain to me where the book takes place.
- Describe one of the characters. What does he/she look like? How old are they? What words (adjectives) do you think best describe the character?
- What questions do you have about the story thus far?
- Why do you think the character did that? What would you have done?
- Tell me about a part in the book when something scary/exciting/sad/etc. happened.
- Tell me what the whole book is about in six sentences or less.
- Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?
- Is this book fiction or nonfiction? How can you tell?
- What do you think might happen (next) in this story?
- Does anything in this book seem familiar to you? Have you been in a similar situation or visited the same place?
- What do you already know about this topic? What are you wondering?
- How might the story be different if told from another character’s point of view?
- Can you make up a different ending? Why would you make that change?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?

Activities to use while reading with your children: [www.fcrr.org/student-center-activities](http://www.fcrr.org/student-center-activities)
Other resources for support: [ReadingRockets.org](http://ReadingRockets.org) and [Scholastic.com](http://Scholastic.com)