

Questions for Fiction

Before Reading:

Read the title and look at the cover.

What do you predict (think) the story will be about? Why?

What do you know about _____?

During and After Reading:

Characters



Who are the characters in the story?

Who is the main (most important) character?

How are the characters related to each other?

Does the main character learn any lessons? If so, what lesson?

Have any characters in the story changed? How?

Who is your favorite character? Why?

Which character is most like you? Why do you think that?



Setting

Where does the story take place?

When does the story take place (today, long ago, etc.)?

What time of year is it?

Is the setting important to the story? Why?

Does the setting remind you of a place you've been before? Tell about it.



Problem

What was the problem in the story?

Who had the problem?

Were there any other problems?



Solution

How was the problem solved?

Did the character have to try more than one thing to solve the problem? What else did they try?

What are other ways that the character could have solved the problem?

What would YOU have done to solve the problem?

Events

How did the story start?

What happened in the middle of the story?

What do you think might happen next?

What happened at the end of the story?

If you could change the ending of the story, how would it end?

After Reading:

Do you have any personal connections to the book?

What did the author want you to learn from reading this book (if there was a lesson)?

Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?

Questions for Nonfiction



Before Reading:

Read the title and look at the cover.

What do you already know about _____?

What is something that you want to read to find out about?

If the book has text features, search through them before reading and talk about how they might help while reading. Examples include:*

- *Table of Contents (tells you different sections and the page numbers)*
- *Photographs (shows what something really looks like)*
- *Captions (tells what is in the photograph)*
- *Index (lists page numbers for different topic)*
- *Glossary (gives the meaning of difficult words)*

**While reading, also continue to point out text features to aid in comprehension.*

During and After Reading:

Name three facts that you learned while reading the book.

Was there anything that surprised you?

What is the book mostly about (main idea)?

If the book has a sequence (ex. life cycle of a caterpillar to butterfly):

- What happened after _____?

If the book has a problem and solution stated:

- What was the problem?
- How was the problem solved?

If the book compares two things (ex. soccer and football):

- How are _____ and _____ alike?
- How are _____ and _____ different?

Choose difficult (vocabulary words) and point them out to your child OR have your child identify difficult words while reading.

Ask: What might the word _____ mean?

Work together to figure out what the word could mean, using any clues that you can find in the picture and context of the sentence.



While reading all types of text, it is important to stop throughout reading and check for understanding. Simply asking “What is happening?” can help children become more thoughtful readers.