

Reading Conferencing Guide

When your child is reading at home, here are some of the questions you could be asking them to assist in their comprehension.

As you are questioning him/her, have your child justify their response with sentences/phrases from the text.

Questioning

Question Stems:

- What were you wondering about when you read that piece?
- Can you show me a part where you were confused? What questions came to mind at that point?
- What questions do you have right now about the character, situation, author, theme?

Inferring

Question Stems:

- Why do you think...?
- What would happen if...?
- What do you predict?
- What do you think that behavior means?
- Can you show me a place where you had to assume something that the author didn't come right out and tell you?
- What character traits are the characters showing right now? Find text evidence to back that up.

Synthesizing

Question Stems:

- Can you tell me what this piece is about in 15 – 20 words?
- Can you show me a place in the selection where your thinking changed/shifted? How?
- Has your opinion changed at all about a character, situation, problem...? What was your opinion before, & why'd you change your mind?
- What do you think the theme of this passage is? What makes you think that?

Visualizing

Question Stems:

- What are you seeing in your mind right now?
- What text helps you imagine? Are there any strong examples of imagery?
- What do you think ___ looks like?
- Can you picture anything with this sentence/paragraph?

Making Connections

Question Stems:

- Does this remind you of anything? Why?
- Is there a moment in this selection that make you think of something in your own life, another book, TV, movie..?

Determining Importance

Question Stems:

- Can you find text that you think is important to the understanding of this selection?
- Is that an important event? Why or why not?
- Do you think you need to remember this? Why or why not?
- Find something in your text that is *unimportant* & tell why you feel that way.

Cause & Effect

Question Stems:

- Why do you think that happened?
- What caused...?
- When _____ occurred, what was the outcome?

Compare & Contrast

Question Stems:

- Find similarities and differences between _____ & _____.

Author's purpose, Author's perspective, Characters, Information, etc.

- Which of these do you identify with? Why?

Main Idea & Supporting Details

Question Stems:

- What is the author's perspective of this piece?
- What are the reasons/evidence/support for...?
- What is the main idea of this article?
- What is this chapter/book mainly about?