



# Questions to ask your child when listening to them read.

## FICTION BOOKS

## NON FICTION BOOKS

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| <p>Basic Questions:</p>  | <p>Where does the story take place?<br/>           When did the story take place?<br/>           What did the characters look like?<br/>           Where did the characters live?<br/>           Who are the key characters in the book?<br/>           What happened in the story?<br/>           What kinds of people are in the story?</p>  | <p>What is the text about? What is the title of the text? Who is the author?<br/>           What kind of things would you expect to see in this book?<br/>           Can you find examples of different features of the text type?<br/>           Find something that interests you in the text. Explain why you chose that particular part.<br/>           Where would you look to find what a technical word means?</p>   |
| <p>Questions to deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas in a book:</p> | <p>If you were going to interview this character / author what would you ask?<br/>           Which is your favourite part? Why?<br/>           Who would you like to meet most in the story? Why?<br/>           What do you think would happen next if the story carried on past the ending?<br/>           Who was the storyteller? / How do you know?<br/>           Predict what you think is going to happen next. Why do you think this?<br/>           Is this is place you could visit? Why?</p>   | <p>What parts of the book could help you find the information you need?<br/>           When would you use the contents page in the book?<br/>           When would you use the index page in the book?<br/>           When might someone use this book? Why?<br/>           Can you suggest ideas for other sections or chapters to go into the book?</p>   |
| <p>Questions to identify and focus on structure and organisation of a book:</p>        | <p>Were you surprised by the ending?<br/>           Is it what you expected? Why?<br/>           What is the main event in the story?<br/>           Why do you think this?<br/>           How has the text been organised?<br/>           Why do you think authors use short sentences?<br/>           How do you think it would end/should end?<br/>           Has the author used an unusual layout in the text? If so, describe is and say why you think they did this?<br/>           Has the author used a variety of sentence structures?</p> | <p>Can you find an example of a page you think has an interesting layout? Why did you choose it?<br/>           Why have some of the words been written in <i>italics</i>?<br/>           What are the subheadings for?<br/>           Why have some of the words been written in <b>bold</b>?<br/>           How does the layout help the reader?<br/>           What is the purpose of the pictures?<br/>           Can you find examples of words which tell you the order of something?</p> |

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| <p>Using the story to back up ideas and opinions:</p>  | <p>Why did the author choose the title?<br/>         Do you want to read the rest of the text?<br/>         How does the writer encourage you to read the rest of the text?<br/>         Can you find some examples of effective description?<br/>         What makes them effective?<br/>         Which part of the story best describes the setting?<br/>         Can you find examples of powerful adjectives?<br/>         What do they tell you about a character or setting?<br/>         Can you find examples of powerful adverbs?<br/>         What do they tell you about a character, their actions or the setting?<br/>         Can you find examples of powerful verbs?<br/>         What do they tell you about a character or setting?</p> | <p>What is the text about?<br/>         What is the title of the text?<br/>         Who is the author?<br/>         What kind of things would you expect to see in this book?<br/>         Can you find examples of different features of the text type?<br/>         Find something that interests you in the text.<br/>         Explain why you chose that particular part.<br/>         Where would you look to find what a technical word means?</p>   |
| <p>Questions to encourage comments on the effect a book has on the reader and to encourage comments on the writers purpose for writing a book:</p> | <p>Can you think of another story that has a similar theme e.g. good over evil, weak over strong, wise over foolish?<br/>         Why did the author choose this setting?<br/>         What makes this a successful story?<br/>         What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?<br/>         How could the story be improved or changed for the better?<br/>         What was the most exciting part of the story?<br/>         Explain your answer as fully as you can.<br/>         What genre is this story? How do you know?<br/>         What was the least exciting part of the story?<br/>         Explain your answer as fully as you can.</p>   | <p>Why has the writer written this text?<br/>         Have you found any of the illustrations, diagrams or pictures useful?<br/>         Why? Try to explain fully.<br/>         Why did the writer choose to present the information in the way they did?<br/>         How could the information be presented better?<br/>         What makes this text successful?<br/>         Are there any features that it has not got?<br/>         Why do you think it does not have them?</p>   |
| <p>Questions to encourage personal connections with the book:</p>  | <p>Do you know another story which deals with the same issues e.g. social, cultural, moral issues?<br/>         Have you ever been in a similar situation to a character in the book?<br/>         What happened?<br/>         How would you have felt in the same situation?<br/>         What would you have done differently to the character in a particular situation from the book?<br/>         How would you feel if you were treated in the same way as the main character?<br/>         What did the story make you think of?<br/>         Have you read any other stories that have similar characters to this one?<br/>         If so, which story was it and what happened?</p>  | <p>How does the context in which the text is written affect the way it is written?<br/>         How does the context in which the text is written affect the way it is read by the reader?<br/>         How is this similar/different to other (non-fiction text types) you have read?<br/>         Explain the similarities and differences.<br/>         How has the historical/social/cultural context influenced the way in which the text is written?<br/>         How has the historical/social/cultural context influenced the way in which the text is read?</p> |