

Why ask your child questions whilst reading with them?

Questions should be asked during reading so that you know your child has understood and followed the main ideas of what they have read, can express opinions about it, and can say if it was enjoyable or not.

Pick some of these questions to ask during and after reading a book, but you do not need to ask all of them!

Fiction Books

- Do the first few pages of the book make you want to carry on reading? Why?
- What do you think will happen next? What do you think will happen at the end of the story? Why? (*Look for a response that notices any patterns in the story, or use of knowledge about similar stories*).
- Why do you think this book is called.....?
- Which part of the story is your favourite part? Why?
- Do the pictures help you to understand the story better?
- Can you tell the story back to me, remembering what happened in the beginning, middle and end? (*Look for a good retelling of the story which includes all of the main events in the correct order, but does not ramble on!*).

- Does this story remind you of any other stories you have read?
- What did you learn from reading this book?
- Why do you think.... (character from the story)... felt sad/happy/excited?
- Where did the story take place? How do you know?
- *Ask general questions about what your child has read allowing them to use the book/pictures to help them. Ask at the end of a page, or after you have finished reading.*

Non-fiction Books

- Is this book like a story book? Why not?
- What did you find out from reading this book that you did not know before?
- *Point out the contents page, and ask what it is for and how it is used. Get your child to predict what will be on some of the pages, by looking at the contents page .Which page would you find out about..... on?*
- Does this book have an index page? *(Use it to find something if there is one).*
- *If there is a glossary discuss what it is used for, and use it to find the meaning of some of the words within the book.*
- Do the pictures/illustration/diagrams make the book more enjoyable or easier to read?
- *Get your child to name diagrams, labels, headings and titles, using their correct names.*

- *Ask general questions about what your child has read allowing them to use the book/pictures to help them. Ask at the end of a page, or after you have finished reading.*