

Developing Your Child's Reading At Home



Following conversations at Parents' Evenings, we have prepared some notes and questions to support reading at home. We hope they are useful!

Reading in Key Stage One includes the teaching of phonics, where children learn to decode words. We encourage reading for pleasure and understanding.

Progress in reading in Key Stage Two is focused around comprehension, inference and deduction. To develop these vital skills, children should read widely and regularly.

By using these questions to structure discussions when reading with your child, you can ensure that these skills are continually being developed.

Reading is assessed across these areas:

Assessment Focus 1: use a range of strategies to decode and read text
e.g. reading key words on sight, sounding out unfamiliar words

Assessment Focus 2: describe, understand, select and retrieve information from the text, such as names, events and key facts
e.g. retelling the story by paraphrasing the text

Assessment Focus 3: deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from texts
e.g. identifying how a character is feeling by their facial expression or behaviour

Assessment Focus 4: identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts, including grammatical and presentational features
e.g. how images are used to share information, how a text contains an argument then counter-argument

Assessment Focus 5: explain and comment on writers' uses of language, including grammatical and literary features
e.g. suggesting why particular adjectives or verbs have been used and the effect they have on the reader

Assessment Focus 6: identify and comment on writers' purposes and viewpoints and the overall effect of the text on the reader
e.g. identifying that the writer doesn't like violence by their comments on it

Assessment Focus 7: relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts and literary tradition *e.g. making links between books about a historical event or cultural topics*

Useful Questions

AF2

Identify a word from which shows that...

What was happening at the beginning of the story?

True/False based on text

How many...

Give one example...

Match answers from text evidence

Which character...

Fill in the gaps in the table

Choose the best word to fill the gap...

AF3

What does this quotation suggest about...?

Explain the use of the word...

What impression do you get of the feelings of this character from the text?

Why did...?

What might this character have been thinking?

If you made a movie of this, what type of music would you use for it, and why?

How are the experiences of these two characters similar?

Why did he feel...?

How did the character feel before... and after...?

How did the characters feelings change?

What would you buy / do / see / ask? Base your answer on evidence from the text

What evidence is there that...?

What is this characters attitude towards...?

AF4

How does the first sentence help to guide the reader?

How does this paragraph link back to the opening paragraph?

How does the writer link the conclusion to the introduction?

How does the writer build up to the conclusion?

Sequence these events from the text.

Label these parts of the text.

How does the timeline / image / diagram / layout make it easier to understand?

Why is this element in bold / underlined / in italics?
What would be a suitable caption for this image?
What would be a suitable heading for this text?
Give two features that tell you it is written as a formal letter / diary / scripts

AF5

Explain how the use of language in this sentence shows...
Why does the writer use the word...
Why is the description of ... a good metaphor to use?
Underline the word / noun / verb / phrase which shows that...
What does the choice of language suggest...
How does the choice of language create the impression that...
Why is this style of formal / informal language used in this text?
What words help the reader to imagine...
Which phrase best describes...
Explain two ways in which this sentence makes the reader...
Why is the word ... in inverted commas?
Choose a word to describe this character. Why?
What is the effect of...?
In what way is ... like ... ?
Which parts of the text tell you..



AF6

What do you think the writer thinks about this topic? Why?
How does the writer show his positive / negative attitude towards...?
How does this article create the impression that...?
Which elements of this text are persuasive?
Why does this section begin with a question?
What is the main purpose of this text?
Which of these texts would inspire you to...?
How does the author make you feel...?
Why has the author included...?
How can you recognise the attitude of this character?

