



Reading Questions to Ask During a Read-Aloud Story

1. Factual Questions

These are questions that can be answered by reading the story. You can easily go back into the story and find the answers. Some people call these the W questions.

Examples

- **Who** is the story about?
- **What** is happening in the beginning of the story? The middle of the story? The end of the story?
- **What** happened to make the main character worried, happy or upset?
- **Where** does the story take place or where is the setting of the story (a story may have more than one setting)
- **Why** is the main character worried, happy, or upset?
- **When** did the main character decided to do something?
- **How** did the main character feel when something unexpected happened in the story?

2. Inferential Questions

These are questions that the reader must think about. The direct answer is not found in the story but based on having read the story the reader can respond to the question. These questions help your child use clues from the story, like what a character says, does, or feels to help them give an answer. They are valuable in helping strengthen your child's thinking and comprehension skills.

Examples

- How can you tell the character was feeling scared (or excited, sat, etc.)?
- Why do you think the character didn't tell the truth?
- Why do you think the character made that choice?
- Why do you think the character changed their mind?
- What do you think the character was hoping would happen?
- What do you think the character meant when they said _____?

3. Opinion Questions

This type of question lets your child share what they think or feel about the story. There is no right or wrong answer. They are powerful questions because they help your child practice expressing ideas and thinking more deeply about what they like or notice in a book.

Examples

- What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
- Which character did you like best? Why?
- Would you want to be friends with the main character? Why or why not?
- Was there a part in the story that surprised you? Why or why not?
- Do you think the character made a good decision? Why or why not?
- Did you like the ending of the story? Why or why not?

4. Connection Questions - Text-to-Self

Connection questions help your child link the story to their own life, another book or something they've seen or heard. They help make the story feel more real and personal, helping your child understand it in a deeper way.

Examples

- Have you ever felt the way the character feels?
- What would you do if you were the main character?
- Does the setting remind you of a place you've been?
- Would you like to visit the place where the story happens? Why or why not?
- Would this story be different if it happened in your school or neighborhood?
- Does the story remind you of another book or movie? How are they the same? How are they different?

5. Prediction Questions

They encourage your child to think ahead and guess what might happen next in the story. This build curiosity and helps them learn to use clues from the pictures or text. Predicting keeps them actively think while they listen or read!

Examples

- What do you think will happen next?
- What do you think the character will do now?
- What do you think the character will say when they find out what happened?
- How do you think they will solve the problem?
- What do you think will happen at the end of the story?
- If the story kept going, what would happen tomorrow?