



# Reading at Home



## What can you ask your child?

### Key Stage 2

When your child reads at home, asking them questions about what they have read will help you to check their understanding and share their enjoyment. In the table below the coloured boxes show the important reading skills we teach in school. The questions are examples of what we may ask and what you might ask at home to develop your child's understanding of what they have read.

<b>Work out the meanings of new words using clues from the text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you see a word you don't know the meaning of?</li> <li>• Is it like a word you already know?</li> <li>• Sound out the word (use phonics)</li> <li>• What is happening around the word (context)? <i>Think about what is happening in the story/what is being described on the page/in the paragraph</i></li> </ul>
<b>Use the text to find/retrieve the facts and important/relevant details</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where and when does the story take place?</li> <li>• Who is telling the story?</li> <li>• Who are the main characters? Where do they live?</li> <li>• Tell me a fact about ... (<i>non-fiction</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>Summarise the main points or main events of a paragraph or text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you identify the main idea in each paragraph?</li> <li>• What is the most important?</li> <li>• Can you tell me what happens in the story using only 5 sentences?</li> </ul>
<b>Hunt for clues in the text about how someone might be feeling or why something is happening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why does _____ feel / think / behave this way?</li> <li>• What does ... tell you about how the character is feeling?</li> <li>• What do you think is going to happen to the main character and how will they feel about this? What makes you think this?</li> <li>• Has anything similar ever happened to you?</li> </ul>
<b>Predict/work out what might happen next using clues from the text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think this story is going to be about?</li> <li>• Knowing what you do about (a character/an event), what might happen next? Why do you think this?</li> </ul>
<b>Discuss the content of a paragraph/text and say how each part relates to the next/links together</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the theme of this book?</li> <li>• How did _____'s actions affect what happens in the story?</li> <li>• Do the events happen in time order? If not, why not?</li> <li>• How is the information organised and presented? Why do you think this order/these headings were chosen? (<i>non-fiction</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>Find examples of ambitious vocabulary and figurative language and explain how these words /phrases add to the meaning of the text.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What did the author mean by this word / phrase / sentence?</li> <li>• How does the author use metaphor/simile/analogy?</li> <li>• How has the author used words to create tension / excitement?</li> <li>• Why has the author repeated these words?</li> <li>• What words or phrases make this funny?</li> <li>• What impression does the author want the reader to have of this character? How do you know?</li> </ul>
<b>Compare events and characters in the text</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How are _____ and _____ similar? How are they different?</li> <li>• In your opinion, what is the most exciting part of the story?</li> <li>• Can you make a list of features in this text type? Does the author use these features in the way you would expect?</li> </ul>
<b>Enjoying books together</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you enjoy this story? Why?</li> <li>• Does this book remind you of any other books? Why?</li> <li>• Do you have any questions about this book?</li> <li>• Which part did you enjoy the most? Why?</li> </ul>