

## How to help your child with their reading- KS2

The best way to help your child with their reading is to encourage them to have a love for reading. We realise time is very precious and that parents often don't have a great deal of time; however, if the only thing you do is encourage your child to read, it will be worth while.

Children should be reading a range of genres, both fiction and non-fiction, so that they are exposed to as many different styles of writing as possible.

Reading isn't just about decoding the words. In school there are seven different reading assessment focuses that teachers use to help assess children's progress in reading and identify areas of strength and weakness, amending teaching as necessary. These areas are as follows:

AFL	Teacher speak	Child friendly speak
1	Use a range of strategies including accurate decoding of text, to read for meaning	I can 'break the code' and read words carefully, understanding what they mean
2	Understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts and use quotation and reference to text	I can find answers in the text
3	Deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from texts	I can use clues in the text to read between the lines and discover even more information
4	Identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts, including grammatical and presentational features at text level	I can talk about how the text has been put together and organised
5	Explain and comment on the writer's use of language, including grammatical and literary features at word and sentence level	I can explain how the writer has used language for different effects
6	Identify and comment on the writer's purposes and viewpoints and the overall effect of the text on the reader	I can explain the writer's viewpoint and how a text makes the reader feel
7	Relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts and literary traditions	I can compare and contrast stories set in different cultures and times

The following resources will give you a guide to the sorts of questions you can ask your child whilst reading and discussing texts.

## **AF2 - understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts and use quotation and reference to text**

Identify a word from paragraph 2 which shows that...

What was happening at the beginning of the story?

What is 'animation'?

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 – deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from texts**

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...?

Fill in the thought bubble: 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 – identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts, including grammatical and presentational features at text level**

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 and comment on writers' use of language, including grammatical and literary features at word and sentence level**

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 – identify and comment on writers’ purposes and viewpoints, and the overall effect of the text on the reader**

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?

Questions for non-fiction are in *ITLICS*.

What words tell you how the character is feeling?

How might you solve the problem of the character in your story?  
Would you have done something

Can you explain what happened in each chapter using only one or two sentences?

What do you think will happen next? Can you explain why you think that? (Encourage them to use clues in the text)

Is this book one of your favourites?  
Is this one of your favourite authors?  
Can you explain your answers?

**Switch on your reading brain!**

What do you think the author feels about ....? (Discuss the story - is there a theme? What is the lesson learnt?)

Can you talk about what you did and did not like about the story and explain why you feel that way?

*Why has the author used a new paragraph here?*

Has the idea changed? Is there a change?

What WOW words do you like? Can you explain how they make you feel? Why do you think the author used them?

*What features of this book help us to read it more easily?*

*(Look for paragraphs, headings, glossary)*

