

A selection of questions which you could ask your child about their reading

Questions about locating and retrieving information	
Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where/when does the story take place? ▪ Who was the character that...? ▪ Show me in the text where you found...? ▪ Read/write down the part that tells the reader about... ▪ What is happening at this point/in this part of the story/play? ▪ Find one/two things that the main character did in this part of the story/play.
Non-Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where can you find an important piece of information about ...? ▪ Find two pieces of information that tell you about ...? ▪ What does this part of the text tell us about? ▪ Which part of the text tells us about ...?
Questions about inference and deduction	
Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why was...important in this story/play? ▪ Did any characters help each other in this story/play? How did they do this? ▪ Tell me about what sort of character/person they are from the things they did/said in the story/play. ▪ What do you think...thoughts were at this point in the story/play? Use the text to help you think through your answer. ▪ If you were going to interview one of the characters, which questions would you ask and why? ▪ Which is the most interesting/exciting/funniest/scariest/your favourite part of the story/play? Why? Which part of the text shows this? ▪ How did one of the characters change their ideas/attitudes during the story/play? What was it that brought about this change? ▪ In this part of the play/story, what do you think the character feels about...? How can you tell? ▪ What do you think would have happened if...? ▪ Write/tell me about one important event that happened that could not be left out. Say why it was so important. ▪ Did any of the characters show their feelings? How/why did they show this/these feeling(s) ▪ Why was (<i>a character</i>) angry/upset/pleased/puzzled in this part of the story/play? ▪ If...had not done..., how might this have changed other events in the story/play? ▪ What you think is going to happen next. Why do you think this? ▪ Which part of this poem did you like best? Why? ▪ How did you think this story/play/poem will end/should have ended? ▪ Can you tell me what word the poet might have used here? (delete significant word(s)) Why?
Non-Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do you know that ...? Can you explain why.....? ▪ How do you know that this text is trying to tell you more about...? ▪ Do you agree with this/the author's opinion? Explain your own opinion using the texts to help you? ▪ How do you feel about this topic? Why? ▪ What do you think about/is your opinion of...? Can you support your view with evidence from the text? ▪ What do you think are the important points the author is trying to get over to you as the reader? ▪ What was it that made...want to...? (<i>biographies, autobiographies, history texts</i>) ▪ Which do you think are the most important issues and why? (<i>environmental/health</i>)

Questions about the layout and organisation of a text	
Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How has the author organised the writing? ▪ Why does the author begin a new paragraph here? ▪ How does the layout of this playscript help actors to read and perform the play? ▪ Why are brackets used in this playscript? ▪ How does the punctuation help you as the reader of this poem/playscript? ▪ What is/are the main event(s) that happen(s) in this/each paragraph? ▪ Can you find any repeated patterns in this poem?
Non-Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why are particular words/sections within a text in bold/italics/larger print? ▪ Why have bullet points/numbers been used in this text? ▪ How does this text layout help the reader? ▪ Why has this text been highlighted? ▪ How does (a diagram/picture/caption) help you to understand the information on this/these pages? ▪ What is the purpose of the list/diagram/caption/sub-headings in this text? ▪ Why has some of the information been presented in a table? ▪ What is the main idea of this/each section/paragraph? ▪ What would be a good heading for this section? Why?
Questions about the author's choice of words and phrases	
Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How has the author used words/phrases to make this character funny/sad/adventurous/clever/frightening/ excited/disappointed/ etc? ▪ What does/do this/these words tell you about (<i>a character</i>)? ▪ Which part of the story best describes the setting/characters/action? Which words and /or phrases do this? ▪ Find and copy some words or phrases that show us that this character is special/helpful/adventurous/unsure/worried etc. ▪ Why is ... a good title for this story/book/chapter/play? ▪ Do you notice anything special or unusual about the words the poet has used here?
Non-Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What do these words tell you about...? ▪ Which word(s)/phrases/types of sentences are used well in this text...? ▪ Is this writer an expert on ...? How do you know? ▪ Why do you think the writer chose to use the word(s)/phrase(s)...to describe...? ▪ Why do you think the author chose...as the title//headline/heading...? (and AF3) ▪ Find something that is not a fact but the author's opinion.
Questions about the writer's intent and the reader's point of view	
Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Did you enjoy reading the story/play/poem or not? Explain your answer by referring to the characters, events and how it made you feel. ▪ How did the story make you feel? Why did it make you feel like this? ▪ Why do you think the author chose this particular setting for this poem/story/play? ▪ How has the author started this in an interesting way. How does this make the reader want to read on? ▪ How do you feel when you read this poem? Which parts make you feel like this?

Non-Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What does the writer think about/is the writer's opinion on/is the writer's viewpoint on in this part of the text? ▪ Why do you think the writer produced this article/leaflet/flyer/brochure etc? ▪ How does the writer try to persuade you to...? ▪ Which information/facts does the writer include to make you believe that...? ▪ Which words/points do you think are the strongest/most powerful in persuading the reader to...? ▪ Why do you think the writer says/writes...? ▪ Why do you think the writer included details about ...? ▪ Which advert/text would most persuade you to buy/take part in...? Why? ▪ If ... was alive today he/she would he be arguing for ...? ▪ The writer says Do you agree or disagree? Why?
Questions about origin and cultural influences in a piece of text	
Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read these two poems? What do they have in common? How are they different? ▪ When do you think this story/poem was written? How do you know? ▪ In which country do you think this story takes place? Why? ▪ Does the setting remind you of a setting you know from another story/poem? ▪ Do you know any more stories like this? Tell me why they are alike. ▪ Do you know another story with similar characters in? Tell me how they are similar. ▪ Many traditional tales have messages. What do you think this story is trying to tell us?
Non-Fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What kind of a text is this? How do you know? ▪ When you have read these two texts, what can you find that is the same about them and what is different? ▪ Do you know of any other texts with similar issues or themes?