

Reading Questions to Guide Parents

For Back-to-School, Orientation, and Parent Conferences

from LearnCharlotte on TpT

Take your child's reading to the next level!

Good readers are always thinking about what they read and asking themselves questions. Here are some sample questions to ask your reader at home. Feel free to ask other questions as well!

Can you retell the most important parts of what you just read?
Can you summarize what you just read into only one or two sentences?

What is the main character trying to do? Do you think he or she will be successful?

What predictions can you make for the rest of the story?

What was the author's purpose for writing this story?

What connections can you make to the text or other texts you have read?

Was anything confusing as you read? Did you have any questions that you could understand? Show me where you found the answer.

What do you already know about _____?

Why did the author end what you just read?

What clues does the title give you about the story?

Is this text fiction or nonfiction? How do you know?

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Thank you from Jessie at
LearnCharlotte!



- Thank you for purchasing this product! I am an elementary school teacher based in Charlotte, NC, USA. I have been teaching since 2006 and I love sharing quality resources with other teachers. I hope this product helps your families get their children reading daily and thinking deeper about books! I hope it saves you valuable **time and energy** as well! I greatly appreciate your feedback.
- [Like this resource? Click here for FREE and engaging literacy products!](#)
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Tips for Teachers

- All of the pages in this resource were designed to help families encourage, support, and deepen their child's comprehension at home!
- **How can I help more at home?**
 - Many families want to help more at home but aren't really sure how. The reading question pages (page 4-6) help add rigor to their child's nightly reading without much additional work! Encourage your families to get in a daily routine of having their child read and then asking 2 to 3 of the listed questions. This will help students grow their ability to talk about books at home and in your classroom!
- **Reading is a fight every night!**
 - Support your families as they try to make reading homework time less of a struggle! Page 7 is a great guide for parents who need help establishing a strong daily reading routine.
- **When should I hand these out?**
 - You can hand these out at back-to-school nights, orientations, parent conferences and more! I slip them into the first report card envelope! Print out a bunch to have on hand for those parents who pop in to discuss low test scores. Hand them to teaching assistants and paraprofessionals to ensure deep reading conversations during guided reading groups or one-on-one reading conferences (if you are lucky enough to have that awesome support!) You can even hand these pages to big kids who want to help in your classroom.

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Feel free to ask other questions as well!

Can you retell the most important parts of what you just read?

Can you summarize what you just read into only one or two sentences?

What is the main character trying to do? Do you think he or she will be successful?

What predictions can you make for the rest of this story?

What was the author's purpose for writing this?

What connections can you make to the text?

Was anything confusing as you read? Did you need to reread so that you could understand? Show me where.

What do you already know about _____?

Why did the author end what you just read in this way?

What clues does the title give you about the story?

Is this text fiction or nonfiction? How do you know?

Why are you reading this? Is it for entertainment or to give you information?

What do you understand from what you just read?

Are you making a movie in your head while you read? What do you see in your movie?

Which of your predictions were right? What information from the text tells you that you are correct?

Fiction Questions

Good readers know that fiction contains characters, settings, problems, and solutions! There are real lessons that you can learn from fiction stories. You should always be thinking about the characters' actions. Make sure you are being an attentive reader by asking some of these questions.

Who are the main characters in this story?

Which character has a problem? How do you know?

What is the setting of this story?

Why do you think the author picked this place as the setting?

When does this story take place? How do you know?

How has the main character changed so far in the story?

Is there a villain in this story? How do you know that he or she is the villain?

What character traits would you use to describe the main characters? (Friendly? Sincere? Compassionate? Kind?)

What life lesson have you learned from this story?

Pick a difficult word from the last part that you read. What clues did the author give you to figure out this word?

What connections can you make to the main character?

What predictions can you make about what will happen next?

What part of this book is confusing to you?

Which major action in this story stands out in your mind?

Was this book written in sequence order or does it go back and forth in time? Explain your thinking.

Nonfiction Questions

Good readers know that nonfiction contains facts, information, real places, and even numbers like dates and measurements! As you read, think about trying to teach the main topic to someone else. If you can't teach or share what you have read then you should go back and reread. Make sure you are being an attentive reader by asking some of these questions.

What is the main topic of this text?

What new words did you learn from reading this text?

What genre is this text? (Science? History? An opinion piece?

Current events like news? A Recipe? How to? Is it more than one genre?)

Why do you think the author wrote this text?

What questions do you have about this topic?

Is the author trying to get you to do something?

Is the author trying to get you to think a certain way about the topic?

What connections can you make to this piece?

Were there any words that stuck out to you? Any phrases that stuck out? (Phrases are groups of words.)

How is this piece organized? (Facts in a list? Comparing and contrasting two topics? Showing cause and effect? Other?)

Were there any text features that helped you understand this topic? (Photographs, illustrations, charts, graphs, maps, etc?)

What evidence or details does the author use to support the main idea of this text?

Strategies to Guide your Daily Reading

To improve at anything we must practice, practice, practice!
The following are some ways to help your child become a stronger reader.

Reading Environment

Children need a quiet and comfortable spot to read. Make sure your child isn't trying to read in front of a T.V. or other distraction. Help them create a space where they can do their best!

Before Reading

As adults we naturally preview text and get an idea about what we are going to read before we begin. This helps our brains prepare for new information and fix anything that seems confusing. Help your child preview their text by studying the cover and back of the book, or flipping through a picture book or magazine and looking at the images. Ask your child what they think the text will be about and encourage them to give evidence (or details) to explain their thinking. Now their brain is warmed up and ready to read!

After Reading

Use the provided questions to create a discussion with your child about what they read. This might not be easy at first and you may find your child giving short or one word answers. Be ready with some follow up questions to help them think deeper about the text. "How do you know?" and "What evidence from the text made you think that," are great questions to keep your child talking!

Creating a Love of Reading

Getting your child to love reading will make their daily reading routine easier for you and them! Provide your child with reading choices on topics they enjoy. Share with them what you are reading or a book you loved in the past. Read to them and have them read to you! You can make daily reading into a special time in your house where everyone stops and reads! Busy families can even stop and read together in the car before soccer practice or on the bench before dance class!

Credits

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