

SUGGESTED KS1 READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

FLUENCY SKILLS

Use a range of strategies, including accurate decoding of text, to read for meaning

Can children

- Read on sight
- Use phonic strategies
- Use textual and grammatical knowledge to self-correct
- Show awareness of punctuation marks
- Show accurate and fluent decoding skills
- Demonstrate understanding in prepared reading

Prompts to develop decoding skills

- Do you see a word you know?
- Check the picture
- What would make sense/sound right
- What would you expect to see at the beginning of?
- Is it like a word you already know?
- Can you see a word inside the word?
- Blend this part of the word.
- Does the sentence make sense?

CHECK BASIC RETRIEVAL SKILLS

Understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts.

Use quotations and reference to text.

Recall Questions

- Where does the story take place?
- When did the story take place?
- What did s/he/it look like?
- Who was s/he/it?
- Where did s/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find...?

QUESTIONS ABOUT COMPREHENSION

IDENTIFY AND COMMENT ON THE STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION OF TEXTS, INCLUDING GRAMMATICAL AND PRESENTATIONAL FEATURES AT TEXT LEVEL

- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might this mean?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- What words and /or phrases do this?
- What part of the story do you like best?
- What do you think is happening here? (interpret)
- What happened in this part of the story? What might this mean? (interpret)
- Through whose eyes is the story told? (deduce)
- Do you know what might happen next? (deduce)

Some questions to help children deduce, infer and interpret.

What makes you think that?

- What words give you the impression that?
- How do you feel about...?
- Can you explain why...?
- I wonder what the writer intended when ...?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?
- Why did the author choose this setting?
- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issues; e.g. social; moral; cultural?

EXPLAIN AND COMMENT ON THE WRITER'S USE OF LANGUAGE, INCLUDING GRAMMATICAL AND LITERARY FEATURES AT WORD AND SENTENCE LEVEL.

Questions on organisation

- What does the word 'x' tell you about 'y'?
- Find two or three ways that the writer tells you 'x'.
- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc.?
- Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?
- In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The writer uses words like ... to describe What does this tell you about a character or setting?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/frustrated/lonely/bitter etc.? • Has the writer been successful in their purpose or use of language?
- What do you think the writer meant by... 'x'?

QUESTIONS ON CHARACTERS

- Explain why a character did something.
- Explain a character's different/changing feelings throughout a story.
- How do you know?
- What are the clues that a character liked/ disliked/ envied/ feared/ loved/ hated etc...?
- What is similar/different about two characters?
- Describe different characters' reactions to the same event in a story.
- Why is 'x' (character/setting/event) important in the story?

IDENTIFY AND COMMENT ON WRITERS' PURPOSES AND VIEWPOINTS, AND THE OVERALL EFFECT OF THE TEXT ON THE READER

- What makes this a successful story?
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
- Does it work?
- Could it be better? How?
- Is it as good as ...?
- How is it similar to ...?
- How is it different to ...?
- Is it as good as ...?
- Which is better and why?
- What is the most ... important/exciting part of the text?
- Why has the author written this article?
- How does the writer try to make sure the reader will do what is recommended?
- Give a statement. Is this a fact or opinion?
- What advice could you give to a character?
- Who is the audience for this text? How do you know?
- What tricks has the writer used to persuade the reader?
- How successful is a text in persuading you or not? Why?
- Who is the 'voice' or point of view in this story/poem? How do you know?
- Why do you think the writer has chosen to do this?
- What would be different if this story/poem was written from another character's point of view?
- What do you think character 'x' thinks of character 'y'? How do you know?

RELATE TEXTS TO THEIR SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXTS AND LITERARY TRADITIONS

Character X does some unusual things.

- Which of those things have you done?
- How is character X like someone you know?
- Is this a modern or historical story? How do you know?
- Is this a traditional tale from another culture? How do you know?
- This is a historical story. What are the key features of the story?
- This story is about anger/bullying/change. Have you experienced this?
- How were your experiences the same or different?
- Does this story have a moral or a message?