

Parent 'Home Reading' Support Checklist

Things to look for when your child is reading:

General

- Are picture clues being used?
- Are basic sight words being instantly recognised?
- Are predictions able to be made BEFORE the book is read? Can they be substantiated after reading?
- Is punctuation being used properly (e.g. stops at full stops, pauses at commas, uses exclamations marks by making voice louder and more expressive, acknowledges speaking marks by making the text sound like 'talking')

Specific Reading Strategies:

- * Is he/she 'sounding out' to help make sense of unknown words?
- * Is he/she using the first sound of the word to help with prediction?
- * Does he/she look for small parts within the word? (e.g. 'thing'...recognize 'th' and 'ing')
- * Does he/she 'reread' words/sentences to check for meaning?
- * Does he/she 'read on' when unsure of a word then return to make a guess at the unknown word?
- * Does he/she self-correct (i.e. realizes has read the incorrect word, goes back and replaces it with the correct word)
- * Is he/she reading phrases fluently (eg "in the park")?
- * Do the words 'flow' without hesitation or stilted/hesitant pauses?
- * Does he/she use expression (i.e. make the story interesting)?

Comprehension (understanding of the text)

Use questions such as those below to determine whether your child has UNDERSTOOD the text he/she has read:

Some of the questions assess BASIC RECALL, however some focus on CRITICAL THINKING, requiring your child to demonstrate reasoning, prediction, deep knowledge and understanding. (Critical thinking examples are bolded.)

Who?.....Who are the main characters?

Who is the story about?

Who do you think it was written for and why?

What?.....What are the main ideas?

What do you already know about this topic?

What were the main events?

What happened in the beginning? In the middle? In the end?

What could happen next?

What do you think the character might feel about?

What might have caused?

What have you learned about?

What would happen if?

Can you explain why.....

What do you know that you didn't know before?

What do you think this expression/saying means?

What is the message of the story?

What is the problem the characters have to solve?

When?..... When did thehappen?

When did the story take place?

Where?..... Where is it set?

Where did this happen?

Why?..... Why did 'that' happen?

Would? Would it really happen?

Would that work?

How?..... How do you feel when?

How could you sum all that up?

How are these.....different?

How does the message of this text relate to you?

Do?..... Do you like/agree with what the author is saying?