

Reading with your Child

Parent Advice Sheet

Year 2 Reading Objectives	Questions You Can Ask
Continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the key strategy to decode words until automatic decoding has become embedded and is fluent.	Can you sound it out? Which sounds do you know?
Read familiar words quickly, without needing to sound them out.	I bet you can't find the word _____ quicker than me! How many of the word _____ are in this book/on this page?
Read words containing common suffixes.	Can you put your finger on a word that ends in the suffix ____? (-less, -ment, -ful, -ing etc) What is the root word? What is the suffix?
Self-correct when they have read a sentence incorrectly.	Did that sentence make sense to you? Do you want to try it again? Model making mistakes and see if your child can correct you. Focus on their common mistakes.
Retell a story, referring to most of the key events and characters.	I've forgotten – what happens in that story again? What were the characters called? What happened after that? Play 30 Second Recap. Can you retell the most important parts of the story in 30 seconds or less? Then swap over. Who did the best job?
Find the answer to questions in non-fiction, stories and poems.	Which part of the text was about....? Can you find...?
Decide how useful a non-fiction text is for a particular purpose.	If I wanted to learn about..., would this be useful? Why?
Be aware that books are set in different times and places?	Do you think this book was set while you were alive? What about whilst I have been alive? Why?
Relate what they have read to their own experiences.	Do you remember when we went to... and saw...? This story reminds me of that.
Build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart.	Can you teach your little sister this poem/rhyme?
Recognise key themes and ideas within a text.	So, it seems like this story says you should be honest. Do you know any other stories about honesty?
Make simple inferences about thoughts and feelings of characters and reasons for their actions.	What do you think... is feeling now? How do you know? What might they do next? What makes you say that?

Simple Tips Whilst You Read:

- Talk about what can be inferred from the pictures before you read the text. What can you see? What are the characters' expressions showing?
- Discuss the meaning of words. Support your child with using a simple dictionary to explore words and their meanings.
- Discuss alternative words. An example would be: "Happy is a bit of a boring adjective, isn't it? What could we use instead?" Use a thesaurus.
- Make predictions and be able to justify them. What do you think will happen next? What makes you think that? If their prediction is way off the mark, model your own and give reasons.
- Discuss the setting of the story. Have you read another book with the same setting? What about in a similar time period? Is it set in the past, present or future? How do you know?
- Have you learnt anything whilst reading this book that you didn't know before? Pretend that you have learnt a new fact and explain it.
- Don't be scared of exploring and discussing concepts that appear in the text, such as betrayal, dishonesty, snobbery etc.

Question Stems:

- What does this word/sentence tell you about... (fiction/non-fiction subject)?
- Can you find a word/sentence that tells you.../shows you.../backs up what you have said about...?
- Why did the author use the word... to describe...?
- How does this word/description make you feel?

- Where/when is the story/poem set?
- Is this character a good/bad character? How can you tell?
- Is there a dilemma in the story? What is it? How is the dilemma resolved?
- Find your favourite description of the....

- How/where does the story/poem/non-fiction text start?
- Which character do we meet first?
- What is the first/second/last step in these instructions?
- Put these sentences into the order they happened in?

- What do you think... is saying/thinking/feeling at this point? Why?
- What do you think the author meant when?
- Why does the author use the word... here?
- How do you think the author feels about...? Find words to back this up.

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where do you think... will go next? Why?
- What might you expect to see in this sort of text?
- Can you think of any other stories like this? How do they end? Do you think this will end the same way?