

## Comprehension

After learning different strategies to decode words on a page, children need to develop an understanding of the text they are reading. From an early stage in reading children begin to answer simple questions about the text. As children become more fluent in their reading, questions related to the text become more challenging. Higher order questioning requires children to 'read between the lines', develop views and opinions and back these up with evidence they have read.



### Simple Comprehension Questions

Questions to ask children during and after reading

- Where does the story take place?
- What does the character look like?
- Who are the main characters in the story?
- Where in the book will you find?
- Which character is sad, happy, angry ....?
- Why is s/he/it laughing, smiling crying ....?
- What might happen next?

### Higher Order Questions

#### Application Questions - making links with other stories

Key Words - identify, choose, select, give examples of

- Can you think of another story that has a similar theme?
- Which type of stories start like this one?
- What other way could the author have ....?
- What examples can you find to ...?

#### Analytical Questions - identifying meaning, making deductions and inferences

Key Words - compare, contrast, examine

- What makes you think that?
- How do you feel about ...?
- What words give the impression that ...?
- Do you agree with ...?
- How did the behaviour of one character affect the behaviour of other characters?
- Why do you think the book is called...? Can you invent a new title for this story?
- I wonder why the author decided to ...?
- What do these words mean and why did the author choose them?
- What evidence is there to support your view?
- How has the author used adjectives to make the character funny/sad?
- Why did the author choose this setting?
- What might happen next - why do you think that?
- Through whose eyes is this story being told?
- Could the story be improved? How?