

What sort of questions can I ask my child when we read?

We also want to make sure that children understand what they are reading, so remember to ask some questions as you read with your child. Asking children questions about what they have read is really important because it helps them to understand the text and really get the most from their reading. It can sometimes be tricky to think of questions to ask so some suggestions are provided below.

Questions for storybooks

- What do you think will happen in this book?
- What has happened in the story so far?
- What will happen next?
- What do you think a specific character is thinking?
- How do you think a particular character is feeling? Why do they feel that way?
- Why did a character act the way they did?
- What was the problem in this story?
- How was the problem solved?
- What happened in the end of the story?
- Did you like the story? Why did you like it? Why did you not like it?

Questions for non-fiction books

- What facts did you learn?
- What did you find most interesting?
- Was there anything you didn't understand?
- What would you like to find out more about?

As you ask more questions when you and your child read together, you will find that it becomes a natural part of sharing a book and that you think of excellent questions of your own.

There are also some questions at the back of the Shared Reader books and your child should be able to read these, but they might need some help answering the questions. It is important that children always go back to the text to find the answer and don't just guess. This routine will help them as they need to answer more difficult questions.