

Questions to use when reading with your child

These will just give you a starting point. You **do not** have to use all of them every time you read with your child.

- Make sure they have a sound understanding of **plot, character** and **setting**.
- Then move onto higher level questions that focus on **language, themes** and **genre**.
- Always allow your **child to be the expert**. They are telling you about what they think of the book – you are not testing them.

Before your child reads a book, ask:

- What do you think the book is going to be about? What genre do you think it will be?
- What have you noticed about the front cover and blurb?

While your child is reading a book, try asking:

- What has happened so far?
- Where is the book set? Would you like to visit that place?
- What have you learnt about the main characters?
- How are they feeling? How do you know this? Would you have reacted in the same way?
- Have you come across any new or interesting words?
- Are there any vivid descriptions that you like?
- Why do you think the author used that particular word or phrase?
- What do you think will happen next?

After your child has finished a book, ask questions like:

- What was your favourite part of the book? Why?
- Who was your favourite character? Why?
- What was the most interesting thing you learned from the book?
- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- Would you have ended the book differently? Did it end the way you thought it would?
- If you could change one thing in the book, what would it be?
- Have you read any other books that this reminds you of? Have you read any books from the same genre or set in a similar time or place? How do they differ?