

Questions to Build Active Readers

Have children answer questions similar to the following before, during, and after reading.

Before Reading:

- What do you already know about this topic? (for nonfiction)
- What do you know about the author?
- What do you know about the illustrator?
- What do you notice about the words, pictures, and other parts of the text?
- What do you think this book will be mostly about?

During Reading:

- What do you think will happen next? Were you right?
- How should you change your predictions?
- What is this part of the book mostly about?
- What is the most important thing for you to remember in this part of the book?
- What questions do you have about what you are reading?
- Who are the characters?
- What is happening? When does this story take place?
- Why is the character doing what he or she is doing?
- What does this part make you think of? What pictures come to your mind?
- What do you think the author is trying to say? What makes you think so?

After Reading:

- What is this book mostly about?
- What is the most important thing for you to remember about this book?
- What did you learn about this topic? (for nonfiction)
- What questions do you still have about what you read?
- Are there any parts that you want to reread to help you better understand the story?
- How will you remember this book?
- What pictures will you carry in your head about what you read?