

Asking Questions

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Questions to Ask Before, During, and After Reading

Before	During	After
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do I know about this topic? • What do I think this article/section/ chapter will be about? • How can I use the physical features to help me think about the subject? • What else have I read by this author? • Have I read any other books on this topic? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can I summarize this in my own words? • Do I understand what I just read? • I wonder why the author says this. • I wonder what research the author did for this book. • How does this connect to other books I've read on this subject? • How does this information fit in with what I already know? • How has the author made this topic interesting? • How has the author made it easy for me to find information? • How does this fit in or challenge what I already know? • What's surprising? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What questions do I still have? • What did I learn about this topic? • What would I tell someone about what I just read? • Are there any parts that I want to reread to clarify my thinking?

Did You Ask an Inferential Question Today?

Comparing Literal & Inferential Questions

Literal (Factual)	Inferential (Interpretive)
Factual questions... involve one answer that can be found in the text or pictures.	Interpretive questions... can have many answers and often students must infer these from interactions with the text.
Examples	Examples
What did she have in her hand?	What's this about? What's going on?
Where did she go?	What is she up to? What do you see happening here?
Is she happy about this?	How is she taking this?
Where does the story take place?	How does the author start us off here?
begin with What, Where, Who, When	begin with Why, Evaluate, Compare, Develop, Examine

Five Great Books for Modeling Questioning Strategies

Title	Author/Illustrator	Publisher	ISBN Number
<i>My Father's Boat</i>	Sherry Garland/Ted Rand	Scholastic Inc.	0-590-47867-2
<i>The Day of Ahmed's Secret</i>	Florence Parry Heide and J.D. Gilliland	William Morrow	0-688-14023-8
<i>How Come?</i>	Kathy Wollard	Workman	1-563-05324-1
<i>The Mary Celeste: An Unsolved Mystery From History</i>	Jane Yolen and Heidi Elisabet Yolen Stemple	Simon & Schuster	0-689-81079-2
<i>Red-Eyed Tree Frog</i>	Joy Cowley/Nic Bishop	Scholastic Inc.	0-590-87175-7