



How to Read with Children: What Reading Experts Say

Sample Questions to Ask:

These are good for starting discussions; pick out a few each day. There are no right or wrong answers.

- ❖ Look at the cover illustration, read the title, or read the short excerpt.
- ❖ Ask: What do you think might happen in this story?
- ❖ Read further. Ask: What do you think will happen next? What makes you think that?
- ❖ What part did you like best? Why?
- ❖ Did this story remind you of anything you have done or seen?
- ❖ Did the story end the way you expected it to? What were the clues that helped you figure it out?
- ❖ Is this story like any other you have read or heard? How?
- ❖ What questions would you ask if the author were here? Which would be the most important questions? How do you think the author might answer them?
- ❖ Did you wonder about anything in this story?
- ❖ What would you have done if you were _____(story character)?
- ❖ Was there anything about what we have just read that surprised you?
- ❖ Why do you think the title of this book is _____(book title)?
- ❖ Who is the main character of this story? What kind of person is this character? How do you know?
- ❖ What character in the book are you most like? Explain.
- ❖ What would you change in the story if you were the author?
- ❖ Would you have acted differently if you were _____ (story character)?
- ❖ Think of a different ending to the story. How would the rest of the story have to be changed to fit the new ending?

When your child has trouble with words

Go over this list with your child. When you are reading together, you may want to have him/her try to sound words out but keep the frustration level low so the experience will be pleasant.

- ❖ What would make sense there? Put a word in that would make sense there>
- ❖ What do you think that word could be?
- ❖ Use the picture to help you figure out what it could be.
- ❖ Go back to the beginning and try again. You read that word on another page.
- ❖ Skip over it and read to the end of the sentence (or paragraph). Now, what do you think it could be?