



We place Reading at the heart of all English work. If children have a love of Reading their vocabulary will widen and the understanding of different types and structures of texts will also increase.

Throughout their time at our school, children will be introduced to a range of texts and each day they will have a Whole Class Reading session.

In each of these sessions the children will be introduced to one or more of the VIPERS skills. They provide a targeted focus and will help the children in their ability to respond to pieces of literature.

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise



We encourage to read at home as much as possible. We appreciate that family time is precious and to fit in Reading time can be difficult, but we would like to encourage you to try and support your child with developing their English work.

On the next few pages, you will find example questions that could be used as discussion starters while you are listening to your child read.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Vocabulary/Language

What does (word/phrase) mean?

Which words has the author used to make the writing sound more formal/informal?

Why has the author used ...(italics, bold, exclamation marks, headings, bullet points, captions etc.)?

What has the author used in the text to make the characters sound funny/sad/angry?

Think of another word you can use here. What different effect would your word have?

As a reader, how do you feel about this character? What makes you feel that way?

Can you find any similes/metaphors in the story?

Find some adjectives that help you picture the scene/character in your mind.

Find a sentence that encourages you to want to read more of the story.

Why has the author set out the text like this?

Inference

What does the word ... imply/make you think of?

If you were going to interview/ask a character a question-who would you ask and what would your question be?

What do you think will happen because of? Through whose eyes is the story told?

Why do you think ... feels...?

If this was you, what would you do next?

How have the characters changed during the story?

Predict what you think is going to happen next. What makes you think this?

How do you know that...? (Deduce/Infer)

What does the main character feel at this point in the story? How do you know this-can you pick out a sentence?

Predict

From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?

What is happening now?

What happened before this?

What will happen after?

What does this paragraph suggest will happen next?

What makes you think this?

Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops?

Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

Explain

How do headings help you when you scan the text? How does the layout help the reader?

How does the title of the story encourage you to read more?

How does the story blurb on the back cover encourage you to read the book? What things do you now want to find out after reading the blurb?

Some of the text is printed in a different way, why do you think the writer does this?

Why has the author repeated structures, words and phrases? What is the purpose of the pictures?

What is the purpose of a caption?

Why did the author choose to change paragraphs here? Why has the author used 'fact boxes' for key points?

What is the purpose of the chapter titles? Which words tell you what order to follow?

Retrieval

Where does the story take place? When did the story take place?

Can you describe the character's appearance?

Who are the main characters? What happened in the story?

Can you describe the problem in the story? How would you solve it? Can you identify words that describe the setting or character?

Look at the picture of the character, how do you think they are feeling? Why might this be?

Describe what happened at/when.

Summarise

What is the writer's purpose and viewpoint of writing the story? Can you think of another story that has a similar theme? (good/evil/weak/strong)

Why does the author choose this setting? What makes this a GOOD story?

What effect do you think the story has on the reader? Could the story be better? What would you suggest?

What impression does the author want to give of this character? Why?

What is the purpose of this paragraph? (e.g. time moves on) What question would you like to ask the writer of the story? Who is this advert trying to persuade?

Would you solve the problem in the story in a different way? Do you think.....was right to?

Does the article/story try to get you to care about anything? What can you tell about what the author thinks?

The Wider World

Do you know any other stories like this? (good over evil, wise over foolish)

How is the hero/heroine of this story similar to others you have read about?

What does the story remind you of?

Does the story remind you of something that has happened to you? How would you have felt in that situation?

What other stories have similar openings/endings to this one? Many stories have messages, what is the message of this story?

Does the story make you want to find out anything else aboutthe history, cultural, social area being discussed?