

45 Guided Reading Questions

Below are open-ended questions to ask your child before, during, and after reading. Choose a few from each phase that you believe fits with the book best. These questions will: a) Get you both thinking more deeply about the story and its characters. b) Make reading a more interactive and emotionally rewarding experience. c) Improve your child's comprehension. d) Help your child make connections to other texts, themselves, and the world.

Before

1. What is the title of this book?
2. Who is the author?
3. Who is the illustrator?
4. What do you think this story will be about?
5. Why did you select this book from the library/bookstore?
6. Why do you think the book is this size or shape?
7. What do you notice about the front and back cover?
8. What other books does this cover remind you of?
9. Who/what does the artwork remind you of?
10. How do you think the illustrator made this artwork?
11. Why is it not a good idea to "judge a book by its cover?"
12. What do you think will happen to this character?
13. What are you looking forward to finding out about this story?
14. How do you think the story might end?
15. What hints did the blurb give us?

During

1. What do you think is going on here?
2. Where do you think this story is happening?
3. Who do you think is the main character?
4. What do you think is good about this character?
5. How is this character making things difficult?
6. Why do you think he/she did that?
7. What would you do if you were in that situation?
8. How do you think they're going to solve this problem?
9. What do you think is going to happen next?
10. How would you feel if that was you?
11. What do you see on this page?
12. Why do you think they are having a hard time?
13. What would you say to this character right now?
14. What other stories does this part remind you of?
15. What experiences have you had that are similar to this story?

After

1. What was this story all about?
2. What was the solution to the character's problem?
3. What was your favorite part in this book?
4. What was your least favorite part in this book?
5. How did this story make you feel?
6. What do you wish was different about the story?
7. What do you think the author wanted us to learn from this story?
8. From one to five, how many stars would you give this book?
9. Who do you think you'd recommend this book to?
10. For what age do you think this book is intended?
11. What could we do to be more or less like that character?
12. What three words would you use to describe that character?
13. If you had to come up with a different ending, what would it be?
14. Why do you think the author thought this was an important story to tell?
15. The publishers picked this story out of thousands to print. Why do you think they chose it?