

Further activities

What is the main point of the book?

Draw a mind-map of the main points.

Do you need to skim read any bits again?

Can you write a review of the book?

Can you design a 'quiz card' for the book?

How does the book make you feel and think?

Did it end in the way you thought it would? Were there any bits that puzzled you?

Would you recommend it to someone else? Who would the book be good for and why?

How well did you read it? What could you improve upon? How?

What is most memorable?

Which bits did you like/dislike?

What was most memorable? What was most exciting?

Can you draw a 'storyline' or an 'outline' for the book?

Was the book a good choice for you and why?

Does it make you want to read another book?

Has the author written other books?

Will you change the type of book?

Choosing 'Just Right' books using the Five Finger Test

- Put 5 digits on the page
- Read the words under each digit
- Repeat the process over four pages

Add up the total number of mistakes:

- 1 or less = book is too easy
- 2 - 3 = book is 'Just Right'
- 4 or more = book is too hard



St Paul's C of E Junior School



Helping your child with reading



The questions in this booklet reflect the way books are discussed in school and will help your child gain a deeper understanding of the texts they share with you.

On the year group pages of our website, you will find links to 'The School Reading List'. Here you will find recommendations suitable for all ability ranges, including both reluctant and more independent readers.

Simple questions to ask before reading

Can you identify anything about this book?
What kind of book have you chosen?
How hard do you think the book is?
What do you want to get from reading this?
Can you describe a book that is similar to this book?

Detailed questions to ask before reading

What information can we find out about the book?

What is the title? Who is the author?
Does the cover tell us about the book?
When was it published?
Is there an author biography?
What do you know about the topic?

What sort of book is it?

Is it a fiction or non-fiction book? What topic is it on?
Is it a biography?
Does it include various forms or styles of writing such as poetry?
Does it include specific forms of writing in parts of the book, such as a recipe, or news, or other?

How hard do we think it is?

Have you tested the book?
Do you need more challenge?

What do you want from the book?

Why did you choose it?
What drew your interest to it?

Simple questions to ask during reading

Why do you think the author wrote this?
What is the book about?
How do you know whether this is a fiction or non-fiction book?
What do you think will happen next?

Detailed questions to ask during reading

Why do you think the author wrote this?

What was the author trying to do? What kind of people was the author writing for?

What is the book about?

Where is the book set? Is it set in a real place?
When is the book set? Is it in the past, present or future? How do you know?
Who are the main characters? What are the main events?

What does the book mean?

Is there a theme or a moral? Does the author have a message to convey?
How do people in the book feel about what is happening to them?
What is fact and what is opinion? Is good evidence presented for facts? Do you agree with opinions?

What do you think will happen next?

Describe what might happen. Can you justify why you think this? What might make it happen? How likely is it to happen?
Can you imagine characters and places in your head? Describe them.

Does the book remind you of something?

Does it remind you of a book? Does it remind you of a film or story you have heard told?
Does it remind you of an event in your life? Does it remind you of feelings you have had?

Thinking forwards

How might the book help you in life? Have you faced similar issues?
Have you felt the same way as any of the characters?

Simple questions to ask after reading

What is the main point of the book?
How does the book make you feel and think?
What is most memorable?
What kind of book would you like to read next?