

Nonfiction/ Informational text
Tonight, as you read with your
Child ask some of these
questions to make sure he/ she
understands the text.

- If you leave out this sentence/section how does it change the text?
- What does _____ mean? Can you use the glossary to find out?
- What text features (charts, diagrams, illustrations, bold words) help you understand the words?
- How would you search more information about _____ in this menu?
- What is a different heading the author could have used for this section?
- Why did the author write this?
- What does the author want you to learn/think/do?
- How do you know the author's point of view?
- The author describes _____ as _____. What is another way to describe the same thing?
- Do you agree with the author? Why or why not?
- How could the author convince you that _____?
- What does this illustration/photo show?
- What does the map try to show or explain?
- The text says (insert quote). Where do you see that happening in the illustrations?
- What does this diagram show? Can you explain how this works?
- What information do we get from this photograph?
- How does the picture/photo help you understand the words?
- What picture/diagram is missing? What would you like the text to include?
- How are these two paragraphs/sections connected? (in time order, cause and effect, compare and contrast)
- The author says _____. What evidence/reasons does the author give to support this idea?
- What is the reason for (action)?
- What would happen if we put the paragraphs out of order? Would it change the meaning? Why or why not?
- Which words let you know what comes next?
- How is (text 1) like (text 2)? How are they different?
- How is (picture/diagram) like (picture/diagram)? How are they different?
- What is the difference between the first person text and the article without a first person point of view?
- How are the important points in (text 1) the same as the important points in (text 2)? How are they different?

Fiction

Tonight, as you read with your
Child ask some of these
questions to make sure he/ she
understands the text.

- What does (phrase) mean? Does it mean exactly what it says (e.g. hit the road) or does it mean something else (e.g. get going)?
- What is the tone of this writing? How do you know?
- Why did the author choose (rhyming words, alliteration, repeated lines)? How does that make the reading different?
- Why did the author choose this word?
- How are the parts of the story connected? How does this section/chapter help the reader understand the setting?
- How does this scene build suspense?
- How would you retell this story, including important parts from the beginning, middle, and end?
- In poetry what stanza is the most interesting to you? Why?
- Why did the author organize the story like this? How would it be different if the order were changed?
- Who is telling this story? How do you know?
- Are the narrator and the author the same person? How do you know?
- Whose point of view is this written from?
- What does (character/narrator) think of (event/action)? What do you think? What would you have done differently?
- What does this illustration show?
- How do the pictures make you feel?
- The story says (insert quote). Where do you see that happening in the illustrations?
- How are the illustrations and the words about the setting the same? How are they different?
- What illustrations help you know the character's feelings?
- Did the illustrations give away anything in the story? What did the illustrations help you figure out?
- How does (version 1) differ from (version 2) of this story? How are the versions the same?
- How did the theme/setting/plot of the different stories stay the same? What is different?