

Reading Comprehension Questions

These are great comprehension questions you can ask your child with any book he/she is reading. Add complexity to the question by asking why or how they got his/her answer. To add even more difficulty to the question ask him/her to prove it through examples in the book.

In Bloom's Taxonomy the simplest comprehension questions are knowledge-based. They include:

- Who are the characters in the story? (Name the characters.)
- Where does the story take place? (What is the setting of the story?)
- When does the story happen?
- What is the problem? or What is the solution to the problem?

More difficult comprehension questions involve retelling.

- Summarize what the story is all about.
- Summarize what happened at the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- What was the main idea of the story?
- What was the most important event in the story?
- Who was the most important character and why?

Next step, move to applying knowledge to our real-life.

- If you were the main character what would you have done when _____?
- If you were playing with the main character, what would you have done?
- If you were another character in the book what would you and the main character do together?
- Who have you read about or known who has been through the same thing as the main character?
- What did this story remind you of and why?

Here are some sample analysis questions:

- What part of the story did you find the funniest? Or the saddest?
- If you were to divide the story into parts, how would you do it? Why?
- What are some of the things that could have happened anywhere in the world?
- Tell an opinion of someone in the story. Why is it an opinion?

The next is synthesis and you could ask your child to:

- Tell the story from another characters point of view.
- Think of a different ending to the story.
- Pretend you are the main character and tell what a typical day would be like.
- What if the story had taken place at the _____ (insert a different place like China or the beach)? How would the story have changed?

Lastly, come the evaluation questions:

- Would you recommend this book to another person? Why or why not?
- Who was your favorite or least favorite character? Why? List reasons from the book to support your answer.
- Which character showed the greatest amount of integrity and why?
- What was the author's purpose in writing this story? How do you know? List examples from the story.
- In your opinion did the author make his purpose clear?