

Useful questions to ask before or after listening to your child read:

Encouraging the children to find evidence from the text to support their answers will help with a deeper understanding of reading.

What do you think this story might be about? (Using front cover, pictures inside the book)

What makes you think that? (child to support his/her ideas from text or pictures)

What do you already know about...? (using background knowledge or developing knowledge of the world or to make connections to other books or stories the children know)

How is that person feeling?

What does that word or phrase mean?

To help with visualisation- What do you see in your head when you read this story?

What do you think the character or place looks like?

What happened?

Why did it happen?

What is the author trying to tell us?

What did the character learn?

Why did the do?

Here are some activities to use after reading.

Play charades and act out how the characters are feeling. To answer your child will have to infer.

Show your child an unusual or unknown object and allow them to make inferences about what it could be or be used for. Antique items work well for this.

Select a picture from a magazine or newspaper that has a caption- cover the caption and ask for an alternative caption. The picture should show people interacting or reacting to something. Ask them to look closely at the details. Then compare it to the actual caption.