

Understanding Inference and Deduction

Inference: the ability to **go beyond the information** given in the text based on the reader's personal experience, knowledge or opinion

Deduction: the ability to **draw a logical conclusion** from the information given in the text

Both: the ability to use two or more pieces of information in order to arrive at a third piece of information which is implicit

Children miss out on many important things if they don't develop the skills of inference and deduction: such as the ability to -

empathise	generalise	recognise author's viewpoint	make predictions based on evidence from text
organise information across whole text	make links between cause and effect	understand the connotation of words	change a text from one genre to another

To move children beyond simple comprehension, **questioning** is the key.

Deduce: draw conclusions from the information given in the text:

What can you tell me about.....?

Infer: read between the lines to draw conclusions which go beyond the information given in the text:

What would this character think about....?

What mood is this character in? Does this character like doing this?

Justify: their reasons by referring to the text itself:

What words give you that impression? How do you know that, from the text?

Evaluate: make critical judgements relating to the text, about the author's effectiveness and their own response.

What makes this a successful story?