Reading Activities

Guidance

Use the questions below to prompt further discussion as you read a book together. We have also included some activities which you may enjoy doing together after reading your story or information book.

Questions to ask before reading

- Talk with an adult about who the author and illustrators are.
- Is the book a paper copy or a hardback?
- Does it have just one story in, or is it a treasury?
- Is the book a story (fiction) or an information book (non-fiction)?

Questions for fiction books

- Find the title. Do you know any of those letter sounds?
- Look at the front cover. Can you guess what this story might be about?
- Where is the story set? Does it take place on a farm, in a shop, at the seaside?
- What time of day does the story take place, daytime or night-time? What makes you think that?
- Talk about the story and think about why things happen. For example, I wonder why the dog was sleepy? Why did the farmer get cross? How did the truck get out of the mud?
- Think about how you might feel if you were in the same situation. Would you feel happy too, or maybe a little bit worried?
- If you were an author and you had to write a different ending to the story, how would your story end?

Questions for non-fiction books

- Does your information book have photographs or illustrations? Maybe it has both!
- Do you know how to use a contents page? You don't have to start reading at the beginning, you can go straight to the section that you're interested in.
- Do you know how to use an index? This helps you find the page that you need.
- If you could write a non-fiction book telling someone true facts, what would you write about? Maybe you could find out some information on the internet!



Reading Activities

Make puppets for the characters in your story.

- Lollipop sticks or socks make great materials for this task.
- Extend this activity by using your puppets to act out the plot of the book.

Draw or paint a picture of your favourite character.

Can you write the name of the character?

Draw a picture of your favourite part of the story.

• You could use crayons, pencils or something from your art box if you have one.

Make a prop for the story (you could use it with your puppets!)

• This could be a bridge for the Three Billy Goats Gruff or a castle for Cinderella.



