



Support Your Child With Reading Comprehension

November 2017

What Is Reading Comprehension?

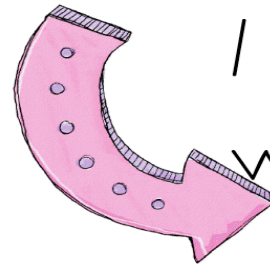
Reading comprehension is the ability to read, process, and understand what a text means.



What It Looks Like

Readers with strong comprehension are able to **recall information** from a text after reading. If a reader comprehends a text, he will also be able to **ask and answer questions** about the text and **make connections between his own experiences** and feelings and the text.

COMPREHENSION



I understand
what I read.

Think Aloud

Help your child understand that good readers think while reading. **Thinking aloud** is saying and talking about the things they think while reading. It is all about bringing their '**inner voice**' alive. They might tell you about the things the book made them wonder about.



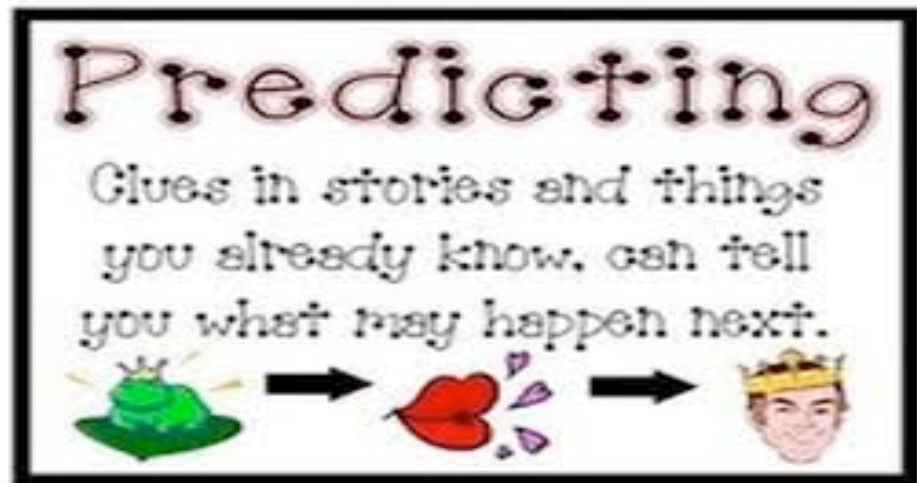
Question the Text

Good readers always question the text. They might not say their questions aloud, but they often want the answers to questions like, “Why did the character do that” or “What will happen as the book progresses?” Ask your child what questions they have while reading. Some questions you will get the answer to and some you will not. Some questions you may even have to research to get the answers to, especially with non-fiction texts. That offers a great opportunity for you to do some simple research with your child. How about a trip to the library!



Make Predictions

Before your child even begins reading the book, ask them to **make a prediction**. Readers can make predictions based on the title or even the cover picture. After they finish reading each day, ask them what they think will happen next. The next day after reading, have them tell if their prediction was correct.



Visualize

Talk to your child about the images they created in their head while reading. Books are different from movies, as books don't always have illustrations. Good readers can take the text and make it come alive in their head. You may even have your child draw a picture after they finish reading to show what they read



Summarizing

Without looking at the text, have your child tell you what happened in the text.

Summarize

to tell, in your own words,
what has happened in the
story



Cinderella wanted to
go to the ball, but she
wasn't allowed.

Make Connections

Ask your child to make one of four connections: **text to self**, **text to text**, **text to world**, or **text to media**.

Ask them how this book is similar to something in their own life. Have them compare it to a book they have read. Ask them if it reminds them of anything happening in the world. Finally, ask if it reminds them of a computer game or movie.



Text Structure

- **Narrative Structure**- If you are reading a narrative piece of literature, talk to your child about these things: characters, setting, plot, themes, and problems
- **Non-fiction Structure**- If you are reading a non-fiction text, talk about whether the book is set up in one of these ways: Time order, Comparison/contrast, Cause/effect, Problem/Solution

