



Ready Reference Form

Goal: Comprehension Strategy: Ask Questions Throughout the Reading Process	
Definition	Readers are actively involved in reading by asking themselves questions before, during, and after reading a selection, thus increasing their comprehension of the material.
Why Children Need This Strategy	Readers who ask questions during reading are actively engaged and thus tend to remember important details and information. While asking questions, readers are monitoring their comprehension.
Secret to Success	Readers must be able to generate their own questions. Not all questions will be answered.
How We Teach It	<p>When introducing this strategy in a whole-group format, we begin by explaining that asking questions during the reading process can help us focus on what we are reading, can give us a purpose for reading, and enables us to monitor our reading or check to see whether we are understanding what we are reading.</p> <p>We model this questioning process by stopping during our reading and stating the question we have in our minds. We model for a few days and then ask students to participate while we are reading aloud by turning and talking. Finally, we have students practice asking questions independently.</p> <p>Questions we may use while reading: "What does this mean?" "Is this important?" "How do I think this story will end?" "What will this selection be about?" "What does this word mean?" "What did I learn?" "Do I need to read this again?"</p>
Troubleshooting	If children have difficulty asking questions, we step back and teach them different kinds of questions readers ask. One resource we have found useful is Taffy Raphael's (2006) work on QAR (Question, Answer, Relationship). She has defined questions under four categories: Right There, Think and Search, Author and Me, On My Own. Using these categories and her definitions under each can make asking questions more concrete and attainable.