

Guidance for Schoolreaders Volunteers

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, reading is not just being able to say the words on the page and recall simple facts about a story. At the end of Year 6, the child will need to be able to show deep understanding of what they read. You can help the child to progress by asking questions and asking the child to prove their ideas. They should be able to explain their ideas and justify their responses with clear evidence from the text. By Year 6 the child is expected to give full answers, and should be discouraged from using one-word answers. Ask them to PEE - make a Point, Explain, and use Evidence to justify! We have provided some examples and strategies below; this list is not exhaustive and each school may have their own way of approaching reading.

Questions Volunteers can ask

Give/explain the meaning of words in context

- What does this word/phrase/sentence tell you about character/setting/mood etc?
- Highlight the key phrase or line which means x.
- By writing 'xxxx', what has the author created?
- In the story 'xxxx' is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The writer uses words like 'xxxx'. What does this tell you about a character or setting?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used instead?
- The writer uses different words to describe feelings and emotions. Can you find any of these?
- What words has the writer used to show how the character feels?
- How does the use of these words make you feel?

Retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

- Where does the story take place?
- When did the story take place?
- Who is she/he/it?
- What did she/he/it look like?
- Where did she/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find x?
- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might 'xxxx' mean?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story describes the setting?
- What words do this?
- What part of the story do you like best?
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?

Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph

- What is the main point in this paragraph?
- Can you sum up what happened in these three/four/five paragraphs?
- Can you sum up these paragraphs in x number of words?
- Make a table or chart to show information in these paragraphs.
- Do any of them deal with the same information?
- Which is the most important paragraph and why?
- How many times is 'xxxx' mentioned?

Make inference from the text/explain and justify inference with evidence from text

- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about x?
- Can you explain why?
- I wonder what the author intended by this?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?
- What impression does x give you about the character/setting?
- What evidence is there that the character is ...?
- Do you think the character was justified in his/her actions?

Predict what may happen from details stated and implied

- Can you think of another story which has a similar theme? - eg good over evil, weak over strong, wise over foolish?
- Do you think this story will end in the same way?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issue? - eg social, moral, cultural,
- Could x happen in this story?
- Which other author handles time in this way? - eg flashbacks, dreams
- Which stories have openings like this?
- Do you think this story will develop in the same ways?
- Why did the author choose this setting?
- Do you think the characters will react in the same way?

Comparisons across the text

- How has the character/mood changed from the beginning?
- If the character came across the situation again, do you think she/he/it would act the same way?