



How can I support my child's reading at home?

At Smarden we are committed to ensuring that every child leaves primary school being able to read. This is more than simply the ability to read words; children need to be able to understand what they are reading which will, in turn, create a culture of reading for enjoyment rather than simply a chore that "needs" to be completed.

You can support your child at home with their comprehension when you are reading with them - this could include their school book or a picture book from home - even a film!

It is important that children are reading regularly at home. As a guide, they should read for 10-20 minutes daily with an adult. Not only does this time give them opportunities to practise their reading and comprehension skills, but it has been shown to support their writing too!

The following table gives examples of questions that you could ask during reading. There are different categories of questions and your child's teacher can give you specific guidance on which skills your child should focus on.

	EYFS - Y2	Y3 - Y6
Vocabulary	<p>What does the word mean in this sentence?</p> <p>What does this word or phrase tell you about?</p>	<p>What do the words and suggest about the character, setting and mood?</p> <p>Find one word in the text which means</p> <p>Which word tells you that?</p>
Infer	<p>Why was? feeling?</p> <p>What do you think the author intended when they said?</p>	<p>How can you tell that?</p> <p>What impression of? do you get from these paragraphs?</p>
Predict	<p>What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this?</p> <p>What is happening? What do you think happened before?</p>	<p>Do you think will happen? Yes, no or maybe?</p> <p>Explain your answer using evidence from the text.</p> <p>What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?</p>
Explain	<p>Who is your favourite character? Why?</p> <p>Is there anything you would change about this story?</p> <p>Do you like this text? What do you like about it?</p>	<p>The mood of the character changes throughout the text.</p> <p>Find and copy the phrases which show this.</p> <p>How does the author engage the reader here?</p> <p>Why is the text arranged in this way?</p>
Retrieve	<p>How many?</p> <p>What happened to?</p>	<p>How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?</p>
Sequence / Summarise	<p>What happened after?</p> <p>What was the first thing that happened in the story?</p>	<p>Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?</p> <p>In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?</p>