

## Questions to ask while reading

- **Basic comprehension:**

- "Who is in this part of the story?"
- "What is happening here?"
- "Where are the characters?"
- "When is this happening?"

- **Predictive questions:**

- "What do you think will happen next?"
- "What do you think the character will do when they get there?"

- **Connecting with prior knowledge:**

- "Why is the character [insert character feeling]?" (Connect to a time the child felt that)
- "What do you know about .....?"
- "What does it mean to be .....?"

- **Inferring social and emotional information:**

- "How do you think [the character] feels right now?"
- "Why do you think they said that?"
- "What do you think they are going to do when they see what happened?"

- **Cause and effect questions:**

- "Why did that happen?"
- "What caused the character to do that?"

- **Making inferences like a detective:**

- "What are the clues in the story that tell us this?"
- "The author didn't say it, but what can we figure out?"
- "We know they finished eating. What can we guess about the plates?"

## Tips for teaching inferencing

- **Be a detective:** Explain that authors don't always state everything directly, and readers need to "piece things together" like a detective, using clues from the text and their background knowledge.
- **Connect to real life:** Remind the child that they make inferences all the time in real life. You can share a scenario and ask what they would infer.
- **Start with visuals:** Use pictures to practice making inferences before moving to text. Ask "What's happening in this picture?" or "What do you think is going to happen in the story?".
- **Model the process:** Think aloud as you read. "The sentence says the character is shivering. I know when I'm cold, I shiver. So, he is probably cold and not feeling well".
- **Build vocabulary:** Inferencing relies on understanding the words on the page. Ensure the child understands the meaning of key vocabulary words in the text.