

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Based on our most recent test results, I've identified that your child is struggling with comprehending what they have read. Talking about books and reading *CRUIZ* is an important tool in expanding your child's reading skills. Reading with comprehension is more than being able to answer simple questions about a story that has been read. It is important that parents support the processes of inferring, synthesizing, analyzing, and critiquing at home.

The suggested questioning strategies on the next page can guide you in facilitating meaningful discussions that develop good comprehension skills at home.

It is suggested that you engage in discussions through asking some of these questions **AT LEAST 2 times per week** after reading with your child.

## Strategies for Expanding Meaning

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|----------------------------|--|---|
| <p><b>Inferring</b></p>    | <p><b>Definition</b></p> <p>To arrive at a decision or opinion using your own knowledge and clues from the text.</p>                             | <p><b>Example</b></p> <p>If a story states that a boy "woke up and made himself something to eat." You could ask, "what meal did the boy eat?" Students would use the clue in the text "woke up and ate" and their own knowledge to know the meal I eat when I wake up is called breakfast to determine that the boy ate breakfast.</p>   |
| <p><b>Summarizing</b></p>  | <p><b>Definition</b></p> <p>To put into your own words, a shortened version of the spoken or written material.</p>                               | <p><b>Example</b></p> <p>After reading <i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</i> you may ask "In general, what was the story about?" Students should respond by briefly retelling the important points of the story in their own words. They may respond with something along the lines of, "The Three Billy Goats Gruff is about 3 goats who were hungry because all of their grass was gone so they had to trick a troll to get across the bridge to eat some new grass."</p>                            |
| <p><b>Synthesizing</b></p> | <p><b>Definition</b></p> <p>A process where students merge new information with prior knowledge to form a new idea, perspective, or opinion.</p> | <p><b>Example</b></p> <p>To arrive at a decision or opinion using their own knowledge and clues from the text, you might ask "Are there anything you understand in a new way from reading this text?" Students may respond with, "I know Mr. Snee is telling us to take care of the trees in the forest. I think he wants us to think about how we can take care of our environment. Things I could do at school would be to pick up trash on the playground and help keep the hallways clean!"</p> |