



Useful Websites

Book Trust: <http://www.booktrust.org.uk/>

Parents in Touch: http://www.parentsintouch.co.uk/index.php?option=com_docsys&Itemid=64

Woodlands Primary School: <http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/onlinestory.htm>

Reading Information for Children and Families



How to help your child with Reading Comprehension.

If your child is a confident reader, ask him to **read through the passage by himself first**. Then re-read the extract together, clarifying meanings of unfamiliar words and ideas in the text.'

Don't accept the decoding of words as evidence of your child's comprehension. Your child needs to understand the **meaning, inference and deductions** within the book, which may not be obvious.

Discuss the contents by asking simple questions about the characters, their actions and the setting. Discuss what the problem is in the story, how the characters try to solve it and what happens in the end. Make predictions about what might have happened before the beginning of the extract, or what might happen next.'

To help your child understand inference, encourage your child to look out for anything that seems a bit strange in the context of the text. For example, in the sentence, "Oh marvellous, I've got ironing to do,' said Mum.

Does anything strike your child as being not quite what it seems?

Make sure your child uses the text as evidence.

Reading comprehension is not a memory test; all the information your child needs is there on the page. Show your child how to find **key words** in the text to help them explore meaning.

Encourage patience and perseverance; if the answer isn't immediately obvious, get your child to re-read the text and it may come to them.

What is Inference? An inference is an idea or conclusion that's drawn from evidence and reasoning. An inference is an educated guess. When you make an inference you are reading between the lines or looking carefully at all the facts and coming to conclusions.

Helpful questions to ask your child.

Can your child find evidence directly from the story to answer your questions?

The answer is right there in the text.

What did..... do?

Who did..... do it to

How many..... were/are there?

Who are.....?

Can you tell me what this word/bit means?

What kind of is that?

Can your child think and search for the answer?

The answers are found in different parts of the story and they might have to apply prior knowledge or personal experience to an answer.

How do you make/do.....?

What happened when..... did.....?

What happened to.....?

What do you think might happen next OR what happened before?

How many times...

What examples can you find?

Where did this happen?

Where was..... when this was happening?

Can your child answer questions without referring to the story?

The answer is not in the story, it is your child's opinion and thoughts.

Have you ever...

If you could...

If you were going to...

In your opinion...

Do you agree with.....? Why?

Do you know anyone who.....

How do you feel about.....?