

Book Talk Questions

This is a list of questions that will facilitate interesting and thoughtful discussion about the books that you read with your child. These are questions that good readers ask themselves as they read to help them both understand and enjoy their reading. By consistently talking about these questions with your children, they develop the ability to question as they read, and thus become strong, insightful readers. These questions are also used during Readers' Workshop, when students partner-read or we read as a class.

1. What did this book make you think about in your own life?
2. What did this book make you think about in the outside world?
3. Which other books does this remind you of? Why?
4. How does the main character feel in this book? Have you ever felt that way? When?
5. What didn't make sense to you in this book?
6. What do you think the author is trying to say?
7. Is this an author you would like to read more from? Why?
8. Which words were hard to read in this book? How will you remember them for next time?
9. Which strategies did you use as a reader tonight? How did this help you?
10. How did this book touch your heart?
11. Can you retell this story in your own words?
12. Who is the main character? Can you tell me about the main character?
13. Where does this story take place? How do you know? What evidence in the book helps you make your decision?
14. Can you share the beginning, middle, ending of this story using your fingers? (Beginning is thumb, middle next three fingers and ending is pinky.)
15. What might we expect this story is about based on the cover of the book?
16. What is the main problem in this story? How is the problem solved or resolved?
17. Tell about the most interesting, scary, or funny part of this book.
18. What did you learn from reading this book?
19. Talk about your favorite part of the book. Tell how this part fits into the rest of the book.
20. Is this book fiction or non-fiction? What helps you make this decision?
21. Would you recommend this book to your friends? Why or why not?