

## FLUENT AND INDEPENDENT READERS

### Questions to ask your child when reading fiction together



#### General (before reading)

- What is the title of the story?
- Who is the author?
- Who is the illustrator?
- Can you predict what might happen in the story by looking at the blurb?
- Do you think you will enjoy this book? Why/why not?

#### Character exploration

- Who is the main character?
- Who are the other characters?
- How has the author described the character?
- Does this give you any more information about what kind of person they are? Eg kind, selfish, jolly
- Would you like to get to know them? Why/why not?
- Why do you think the character reacted in the way that they did in the story?
- Would you have reacted in the same way?
- How does the character feel about what is happening to them?
- Can you point to some sentences in the text that help you find this out?
- How would you feel if you were that character?

### **Comprehension (needs to be adapted to fit particular story)**

- Explain what has happened in the story so far in your own words
- What issue or dilemma are the character's facing?
- Why has this happened?
- Describe the surroundings as you imagine them. What information from the story did you use to help you?
- Can you predict what might happen on the next page/in the next chapter?
- How has the story developed since the beginning of the book?
- When the author writes....., what do you think they mean?
- When the character says....., what do you think they mean?
- Why is there an exclamation mark at the end of this sentence?

### **Exploring own preferences**

- Did you enjoy the story?
- How does the book make you feel?
- Have you read any stories with similar themes/issues?
- Have you ever experienced anything like what has happened in the story?

### **Vocabulary extension**

- Can you think of another word for ..... (eg happy=joyful)
- Have you read any words that you don't understand?
- Can you work out what they mean by looking at the rest of the sentence?
- Can you spot any words that rhyme with.....?
- How many others can you think of?
- How has the author described the character? Pick out any words or phrases that really help you to paint a picture in your mind