

# A Parent's Guide to Helping Children Understand What They Read

We are working on important ways to better understand what we read. Listed below are 8 comprehension strategies that are being taught. When reading, watching TV, talking or sharing a special time together, you can help by asking some questions that will help your child.

Comprehension Strategy	What Good Readers Do	Parent Question for Discussion
Recall Prior Knowledge	Good readers think about the information that they already know to better understand what they read.	What does this remind you of?
Predict	Good readers use their background knowledge and clues from what has been read to think about what will happen next.	What do you think will happen next? Why?
Identify Main Idea	Good readers are able to explain the most important ideas.	What was most important about what you've just read? Why was that important to you?
Question	Good readers ask themselves questions to better understand what they read.	What is a question you have so far?
Create Pictures in Your Mind	Good readers make pictures in their minds to help them understand what they are reading.	What are you seeing in your mind as you are reading this?
Make Inferences	Good readers use what they already know and ideas for the book to make a conclusion about an event or person.	How do you know that ____ will happen? Why do you suppose ____ acted that way?
Summarize	Good readers can explain the most important ideas from beginning, middle and end of the story.	Tell me what this story is about. Explain the most important details from this information.
Clarify	Good readers have more than one way to clear up what they do not understand.	What can you do to read that word? What might help you to understand this confusing part better?