

Literacy Focus

Asking Questions

Good readers ask questions before, during, and after they read. Sometimes, the answers to these questions can be found right in the story. Sometimes, the answer has to come from your background knowledge.

When we read,
we can ask:

'Right-there' questions

These are:

- quick to ask;
- quick to answer;
- the answer is 'right there' in the text.

These questions also:

- answer the 5W's + H;
- help the reader to understand the important details in an article (e.g., people, places, events).

'In-your-head' questions

For these questions:

- the answer is not written down;
- the answer comes from clues in the text or from the reader;
- there is often no one right answer.

These questions also:

- usually lead to more questions;
- help the reader to think beyond the story;
- need to matter.

Question Words:

Who, What, Where, When,
Why, How, Would, Wouldn't,
What if, What about, Do,
Don't, Does, Doesn't, Is, Isn't,
Did, Didn't, Could, Couldn't,
Can, Can't, Are, Aren't,
Should, Shouldn't, I wonder...

