

Reading Literature Cheat Sheet

These questions can be used when reading picture books, short stories, chapter books, and novels. These are also appropriate for retelling fairy tales or folktales. Outside of reading, these questions fit with family drama and comedy shows, cartoons, or movies.

Before Reading

- What will this book be about? How do you know?
- What is the title of this story? What clues does the title give about the story?
- Who is the author? What does the author do? Who is the illustrator? What does the illustrator do?
- What do you think will happen in this story? What gave you that idea?

During Reading

- What do you think will happen next? How do you think (character) will react?
- How would you feel if that happened to you?
- What would you have done if you were the character?
- What pictures have you been seeing in your mind?
- Can you predict what will happen next?
- What does the main character want to happen?
- How do the illustrations explain what is happening in the story?

After Reading

- What is the most important thing that happened in the story (or the chapter)?
- Why did the author write this story? What did they want you to learn?
- Can you retell the story in your own words?
- What do you think will happen to the main character after this story is over?
- Were your predictions correct? Why or why not?
- How is this story/character like a different story/character?

Reading Information Cheat Sheet

These questions can be used when reading nonfiction books, articles, news stories, or information. They are also appropriate for reading flyers, invitations, recipes, or any functional text. Outside of reading, these questions fit with news programs, history shows, or factual animal shows.

Before Reading

- Why are you reading this? What are you hoping to learn or find out?
- What do you already know about this topic?
- What do you think you will learn by previewing the photos in this book?

During Reading

- Why does the author tell you _____?
- What is the most important idea?
- How do the pictures/maps/illustrations help you understand the words?
- Are there bold words? Italics? Why? What information does this add?
- Can you tell what the author feels about this topic? How do you know?
- Does this remind you of anything in your life? What?
- What does _____ mean? Can you show in the text where you learned that?

After Reading

- What was the most interesting thing to you about this topic? Why?
- What words or ideas do you still not understand?
- Now that you've read this, what do you want to learn about next?
- What would you re-title this book/article?
- Can you tell what happened in order? (if applicable)
- Did you agree or disagree with the ideas? Why?
- If you were going to share a fact from this with someone else, what would you tell them?
- What questions would you ask the author?

