Teaching Reading Skills at West Berry Federation



Reading skills is the ability of an individual to read, comprehend and interpret written words on a page of an article or any other reading material

| <u>Skill</u> | Question starters | Activity ideas |
|--|---|--|
| Decoding/ | Retrieval | Fastest finger (scanning the text) |
| | Find and copy a word that means | |
| <u>Retrieving</u> | Find a word or phrase that tells us | Create and answer true or false question |
| Use a range of reading | Which paragraph tells us? | |
| strategies to work out or find any unfamiliar | Which word suggests that? | Would I lie to you? /Call my bluff game |
| word | Write down three things that we are told about | |
| | Where in the book would you find? | Role play part of the story |
| | What was revealed at the end of the story (multi-choice question) | |
| | What happened at/when? | Fastest finger (words or grammatical features) |
| | Are these statements true or false? | |
| | When/where was the story set? | How many question marks can you find? |
| | What did (character) do when? | |
| | Where did? | True or false questions |
| | What evidence is there to show that? | |
| | What helped the character to? | Who am I describing |
| | Give two reasons why | |
| | According to the text, how did? | How many words can we find that mean? |
| | Describe | |
| | Mime what happens when | Finding information about a topic |
| | Where could the author have used a question or exclamation | |
| | Fastest finger for grammatical features | Draw a picture of |
| | Find the key word/ phoneme/grapheme | |
| | | |
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| <u>Infer</u> | KS1: | Charades |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Point, Evidence, and | Why did happen? | Hot seating |
| Explanation to support | Why was he feeling? | S |
| Explanation to support | Why is a good name for this? | KS2 children explaining and miming feelings and emotions. |
| | How does effect something else? | 0 1 0 1 1 1 |
| | Can we work out how? | |
| | KS2: | |
| | Can we work out how? | |
| | How did think/feel/respond? | |
| | Why isimportant? | |
| | How did? | |
| | In what way does think? | |
| | What does think is trying to say? | |
| | Find and copy a group of words that mean? | |
| | Why does do this? | |
| | Explain how felt about? | |
| | What does this description suggest about the? | |
| | How does the information tell you this? | |
| | How did the characters actions affect the outcome of the story? | |
| | How do the descriptions support the idea that a character can be conflicted? | |
| | What makes you think this? | |
| | How can you tell? | |
| | Who would you like to meet, why? | |
| | Why did the character behave in this way? Why? | |
| Predict | R/KS1: | Draw what you think will happen next. |
| Predict what might | What do you guess could? | Role play what you think might happen. |
| happen from details | What might happen when? | Read part of the story, children tell/write the next part of the story |
| stated and implied | what might happen if? | (e.g. the ending) |
| based on: - themes | What do you think will happen? | Role play predictions |
| - conventions | What do you think the next step will be? | Hot seat character predictions |
| - knowledge | What sentence or phrase do you think will come next? | Write the next part of the story in the same style as the author. |
| about the author | What do you think this character will do/say next? | List your ideas about |
| genres | How do you think this will end? | Stop at intervals to ask what might happen next. |
| 3 | KS2: | Ask for evidence from text for children's predictions. |
| | Based on what you have read, what might happen next? | |
| | Based on what you have read, how do you think this will end? Give evidence from the text. | |
| | Ifchanges, how will this affect the outcome? | |
| | What features might you expect to see next in this text? | |
| | Based on what you know about how do you think the author will develop the story? | |
| | Can you make a list of details to support your ideas about? | |

| Clarify Explore and explain the meaning of words in context. Distinguish between fact and opinion. Clarify concepts and ideas at sentence, paragraph and whole text level. | Children giving their opinion: Who is your favourite character? Why? Why do you think everything in the description of the house is grey? Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not? Is there anything you would change about this story? What has hooked you into this story? What is a homonym (words that sound the same, spelt the same but have different meaning depending on context) homophone (words that sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings) Homograph (words that spelt the same pronounced differently and mean different things)? | Use dictionaries to check the meaning of words. Decide on whether statements are fact and opinion. Either by ticking a fact or opinion box or teacher reading out a statement and children agreeing on fact or opinion. EYFS/KS1 True or false? Red Riding Hood is going to visit Auntie Pat. Homonym/Homophone Hunter Discuss favourite books and their opinions on it. Discuss favourite characters. |
|--|---|---|
| Question Ask and answer questions to improve understanding of themes and authorial intent. | Why do you think the author used? How do the illustrations/ choice of font/ bold/ itallic contribute to the meaning? How does the title engage the reader? Give examples of words chosen by the author - are they effective? Why did the author use that word? i.e to describe a character. What impression does the author want you to have of this character? How do you know? Does the author have a viewpoint of? How does he/ she show this? Is the aim of this text to persuade or inform you? | Compare and contrast books by the same author. |
| Summarise Identify and summarise main ideas from across a text. Identify key details that support main ideas using quotation for illustration Retrieve, record and present key information from non- fiction. | What impressions do you get? (What is happening, how are they feeling? KS1) What was revealed? (What was the surprise?) KS1 What is the main theme? What is the main argument? What is the main message in the paragraph? What has just happened? KS1 What is the important message/s in the book? How does this relate to our school values? Can you describe what has happened? What sticks most in your mind about the story? How would you sum up the story? Is there a message or moral in the story? Why is this happening now? What is the message or moral to the story? Link to Values Can you describe what happened in the chapter? | Spider diagram See it from both sides/ discussion speech bubbles Story map cartoon strip Role play what has happened Write a blurb How do you know? ask a friend role play/ draw it/ puppets Draw a poster Story map/ grid/ characters/ setting/ emotions/ Discuss as a class/ refer to Values Mind map/ Charades |

Lang for effect

Discuss and evaluate texts, commenting on writers' use of words, phrases and language features including figurative language. How does it make you feel? Why?

What words are used to make this happen?

Can you think of any words or phrases the author could have used to describe this?

Can you find any noun phrases?

Can you find any adverbial phrases?

Can you find any prepositional phrases?

What does this word/phrase tell you about____?

Noun Hunter (KS1)

Noun Phrase Hunter (KS2)

Verb Hunter (KS1)

Adverbial Hunter (KS2)

Hot seating the author

Focus for the week - e.g finding expanded noun phrases - children write any they find on a Post-Its

Synonym Suggestion

Antonym Suggestion

Hot seating the author

Themes and convention

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Identify, discuss the themes and conventions of a range of texts.

When thinking about conventions think KAG – Key features, Author, Genre. These are things that are SIMILAR across a range of linked books.

A 'theme' is specific to that story i.e. love, death, coming of age, power & corruption, survival, courage & heroism, prejudice, individual vs society, war

Conventions are a bit like key features – they occur in similar books and help you think about what to include if you are writing a certain type of text. The best example for this is a traditional fairy tale – what always appears in well-known fairy-tale? What would any convention of e.g. Julia Donaldson's books for younger readers be? (rhyming, talking animals)

Can you find extracts that deal with the theme of ...?

Which conventions of genre X has the writer used?

(Compare with exploration question - 'based on what you know so far, which genre do you think

the book fits?')

What big ideas are there in the text?

What is the writer suggesting about X?

How is the theme of X presented within the text?

What are the writer's views on X?

What was the underlying theme of ..?