Asking Questions

You might have noticed that sometimes when you read a story, you have a lot of questions about it. That’s great!

Questions are what makes reading interesting because when you wonder about something, it makes you want to keep reading so you can find out more. When you keep reading, you usually find that many of your questions are answered. Asking questions is one of the best ways to understand what you read.

If you haven’t noticed yourself asking any questions, don’t worry. Sometimes people don’t even realize they have questions when they read. But if they stop and think about it, they almost always find that they actually do wonder about lots of things.

Sometimes readers get really confused, so they don’t even know what type of question to ask. This even happens to teachers and other adults. Everyone spaces out sometimes when they read. If you get confused, go back and re-read the page you read before. Then just keep reading. Things usually start to make sense after you read more of the story.
Asking Questions

There are different types of questions you can ask when you read a story. For example, you can ask:

1. what a word or phrase means
2. why a character says or does something
3. what the characters are thinking
4. what is going to happen next

As you read, stop at the end of each page and see if you can think of a question or two. Write down your questions on page 3 of this worksheet. You can use another sheet of paper if you can’t fit all your questions on one page.

When you are finished with the story, read over your questions and talk about them with your tutor.

Some questions might have gotten answered later in the story. Or you might have figured out the answers to some of them by using clues or talking to your tutor or another student. Put a check mark next to the questions that were answered.

If you have questions that didn’t get answered, write a big question mark next to them. Don’t worry about these. Some of the best questions don’t have answers!