

The following is a list of comprehension activities that will provide opportunities for your second grader to express his or her thoughts and understandings of books. As you and your child read together, please look to this list to enhance the reading experience. Always encourage your child to return to the text as a resource.



Predicting:

- Look at the cover, read the title, and make a prediction
- Take a picture walk and make predictions

Identifying:

- Identify the problem/s and solution/s in the book
- Identify and describe the main character/s
- Explain how you know if the book is fiction or non-fiction
- In non-fiction, identify the headers, captions, and/or labels
- Identify a part of the story that shows a mood/emotion
- Identify the setting/s of the story
- Identify the main idea of the book
- Identify and explain how the book made you feel
- Identify new words as you read and look up their definitions
- Use the glossary to find the meanings of interesting words
- Identify facts and/or opinions in the book
- Distinguish between facts and opinions in the book
- Identify something the author/illustrator did to make the book interesting

Summarizing:

- Re-tell the story in your own words (including a beginning, middle, and end)
- Explain the book's main idea
- Re-tell the story (including the character/s, setting/s, problem/s, solution/s, and main idea/s)

Connecting:

- Make a connection to characters or topics in other books
- Make a connection to yourself or events that have occurred in your life
- Make a connection to something you know
- Read books by the same author/illustrator, and identify similarities and/or differences
- Read books on the same topic, and identify similarities and/or differences

Questioning:

- Identify a choice made by one of the characters; tell why you agree or disagree with that choice and explain why
- Explain why you think the author chose the title of the book
- Discuss the author's purpose of writing the text
- Compare and contrast characters in the story
- Identify how the main character's feelings change and discuss what caused the change

Inferring Beyond the Details:

- Identify a choice made by one of the characters and explain why you think the character made that choice
- Identify/explain how you know what part of the day events are occurring in the book
- Explain how a character or a part in the story shows mood/emotion

Extending

- Think of an alternate or extended ending for the story
- Find your favorite part in a book and explain why it is your favorite
- Choose an alternate title for the book, and explain your choice
- Create a new cover for the book
- Visit the author's website (make sure a grown-up is with you)
- Write a letter to an author
- Turn the story into a play
- Make a commercial about the book
- Persuade someone that they should or should not read this book