Key Reading Skills

Vocabulary

Draw upon knowledge of vocabulary in order to understand the text.

Example questions:

• What does the word ………. mean in this sentence?

• Find and copy a word which means ……….

• What does this word or phrase tell you about ………?

• Which word in this section do you think is the most important? Why?

• Which of the words best describes the character/setting/mood etc?

• Can you think of any other words the author could have used to describe this?

• Why do you think ………. is repeated in this section?

Infer:

Make inferences from the text.

Example questions:

• Why was……. feeling ……..?

• Why did ………… happen?

• Why did ………. say ……….?

• Can you explain why……….?

• What do you think the author intended when they said……….?

• How does ………. make you feel?

Explain:

Explain your preferences, thoughts and opinions about the text.

Example questions:

• Who is your favourite character? Why?

• Why do you think all the main characters are …….. in this book?

• Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not?

• Is there anything you would change about this story?

• Do you like this text? What do you like about it?

Predict:

Predict what you think will happen based on the information that you have been given.

Example questions:

• Look at the book cover/blurb – what do you think this book will be about?

• What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this?

• How does the choice of character or setting affect what will happen next?

• What is happening? What do you think happened before? What do you think will happen after?

• What do you think the last paragraph suggests will happen next?

Retrieve:

Identify and explain the key features of fiction and nonfiction texts such as: characters, events, titles and information.

Example questions:

• What kind of text is this?

• Who did…..?

• Where did…..?

• When did…..?

• What happened when…..?

• Why did …….. happen?

• How did …….?

• How many…..?

• What happened to……?

Sequence:

Sequence the key events in the story.

Example questions:

• Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?

• What happened after …….?

• What was the first thing that happened in the story?

• Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?

• In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?