

Making Reading Fun-Questioning

What the Research Says

- **Reading aloud** to children has been called the most important activity for building knowledge and skills a child needs to be a successful reader.
- Experts have identified some **simple strategies** that can help children get the most from a book reading experience.
- One strategy experts have identified that can help children get the most from a reading experience is **asking questions**.
- Asking questions **before, during, and after** book readings help children focus on what they are doing and learn more from the book experience.
- Questions stimulate children’s thinking, curiosity, and imagination and **makes reading fun**.
- There are **three kinds of questions** adults can ask children when talking or reading with them.
 - **“Yes/No”** questions are considered the easiest questions for children to answer and most can do so by their second birthday.
 - **“Wh”** questions start with “who,” “what,” “where,” and “when.” By the time children are three, most can answer “wh” questions. (Young children are just beginning to understand the concept of time, so “when” questions may be more difficult.)
 - **“Open-ended”** questions can be answered in many different ways and usually start with “how”, “what if”, or “why.”

Examples of question types

Yes/No Questions

- Is the boy happy now?
- Will the car hold all those people?
- Did Goldilocks like Papa Bear’s porridge?
- Do you like their idea?
- Will they have enough time?

WH Questions

- What house do you think will be the strongest?

Learning TOGETHER

Making Sense of Early Childhood

- Who will help them?
- What is she wearing now?
- Where did the dog go?
- Who does baby want?

Open Ended Questions

- How do you think the baby feels?
- What will happen if they forget to tie the dog up?
- How could they fix their broken bike?
- What do you think Goldilocks will do when she sees Baby Bear in her bed?