

THINKING WITH MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Video: Literacy Olympics

Question-Answer Relationships

(in the book)

FICTION

After school on Tuesday, Josie and her mom found a series of short stories on the Internet. Josie liked the story, *Night Time Visitors*, best. It reminded her of a time when her family had strange visitors at their house. At the end of the story were questions about it. Josie decided it was a great time to use the QA4 strategy. She knew it would help her remember what she read.

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read **Night Time Visitors** and create a *Think Aloud* with your family or friends.

Then compare your group's thinking with **Josie's Think Aloud.**

NONFICTION

Hasan loves Asian and African elephants. Ever since his parents took him to the zoo when he was a little boy, he liked their big, floppy ears and long trunks. Now that he's older, he doesn't like for such big animals to live in such small areas. In the latest issue of his pachyderm magazine, Hasan read about a special place for elephants in Tennessee. At the end of the article, there were some questions to help him think about the text. Hasan decided it was time use the QA4 strategy to answer these *In the Book* questions.

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read **Just Like Home-Elephant Sanctuary** and create a *Think Aloud* with your family and friends.

Then compare your group's thinking with **Hasan's Think Aloud.**

Before You Read:

Think about what you already know about elephants. Consider what you've learned about "In the Book" question types. Read the questions below. Determine the question type and think about what you will be expected to know after reading. Remember "In the Book" questions are directly stated within the text. Share your thoughts with your family and friends.

Questions:

Where is The Elephant Sanctuary?

How is The Elephant Sanctuary like life in the wild?

While You Read:

Ask your parent, brother, sister, or friend to read this passage with you. Think about the questions you just read. Look for signal words stated in the questions and see if together you can locate the information to answer them. You may want to highlight the text that will help you answer "Right There" questions in orange and "Think and Search" questions in green. (You may use any colors available to you – just remember your color scheme!)

After You Read:

- Think about how you will use the QA4 strategy to answer questions about what you read.
- Think about the signal words in the questions. How do they help you identify the question type? Discuss your ideas with your family and friends.
- Together create a collaborative *Think Aloud* about how you used QA4 to answer the questions. Share your *thinking* with each other.

Just Like Home: The Elephant Sanctuary

Asian and African elephants have a place to call home outside the zoo or circus. The Elephant Sanctuary is in Hohenwald, Tennessee. Elephants who are old or have special needs are cared for and protected at the sanctuary. They can graze green pastures, bathe in the pond, and explore forests just like in their natural habitat. A heated barn keeps elephants warm in the winter.

The Elephant Sanctuary is much like life in the wild for the elephants. In the wild, Asian and African elephants don't live side by side. They each have their own habitats at the sanctuary, too. The sanctuary also has only female elephants, since males and females live apart from each other in the wild.

A new education gallery is being built in downtown Hohenwald. Visitors will be able to see the elephants up close through special video cameras called "ele-cams."



Compare Your Think Aloud With Hasan's Think Aloud:

Hasan's Think Aloud: The first question asks, "Where is the Elephant Sanctuary?" I know when I read the word, *where*, I'll need to scan the text for a location to answer this question. I think this is an *In the Book: Right There* question type because it is asking me for a single location and I think I'll find that in one sentence. Here it is in the second sentence, "The Elephant Sanctuary is in Hohenwald, Tennessee." I'll record this as my answer.

The second question asks, "How is the Elephant Sanctuary like life in the wild?" When I see the word *like*, I know I will be comparing the Sanctuary to the elephant's natural habitat in the wild. Since I need to search the text for my answer, I think this is an *In the Book: Think and Search* question type. Near the end of the first paragraph I read that elephants "graze green pastures, bathe in the pond, and explore forests just like in their natural habitat." From the signal word *like*, I know I am making a comparison. I will continue searching the text for more similarities. At the beginning of the second paragraph, I read, "The Elephant Sanctuary is much like life in the wild for the elephants." I understand I will be learning about more similarities because the signal word *like* is used again. I determine another similarity is that Asian and African Elephants are separated in the Sanctuary because they live separately in the wild, when I read, "In the wild, Asian and African elephants don't live side by side. They each have their own habitats at the sanctuary, too." When I read "Only females live at the Sanctuary because they live apart from males in the wild." I know that is another similarity between the Sanctuary and the wild. My answer is, "The Elephant Sanctuary is like the wild because elephants can graze pastures, bathe in the pond, and explore forests. Asian and African Elephants have their own habitats and female elephants live together."

Questions and Answers:

Where is The Elephant Sanctuary?

The Elephant Sanctuary is in Hohenwald, Tennessee.

How is The Elephant Sanctuary like life in the wild?

The Elephant Sanctuary is like the wild because elephants can graze pastures, bathe in the pond, and explore forests. Asian and African Elephants have their own habitats and female elephants live together.

Just Like Home: The Elephant Sanctuary

Asian and African elephants have a place to call home outside the zoo or circus. **The Elephant Sanctuary is in Hohenwald, Tennessee.** Elephants who are old or have special needs are cared for and protected at the sanctuary. They can **graze green pastures, bathe in the pond, and explore forests** just **like** in their natural habitat. A heated barn keeps elephants warm in the winter.

The Elephant Sanctuary is much **like** life in the wild for the elephants. **In the wild, Asian and African elephants don't live side by side.** They **each have their own habitats at the sanctuary**, too. The sanctuary also **has only female elephants, since males and females live apart from each other in the wild.**

A new education gallery is being built in downtown Hohenwald. Visitors will be able to see the elephants up close through special video cameras called "ele-cams."



Questions To Think About:

- How do *question stems* help *signal* "In the Book" questions?
- What type of thinking do you need to do in order to answer "In the Book" questions?
- Why is it helpful to scan or explore the text when answering an "In the Book" question?
- Why might this strategy be useful?
- When might this process be helpful?



Before You Read:

Think about what you already know about nocturnal animals. Consider what you've learned about "In the Book" question types. Read the questions below. Determine the question type and think about what you will be expected to know after reading. Remember "In the Book" questions are directly stated within the text. Share your thoughts with your family and friends.

Questions:

Who built the tree fort?

What snacks did the three friends put in their fort?

While You Read:

Ask your parent, brother, sister, or friend to read this passage with you. Think about the questions you just read. Think about the signal words stated in the questions that will help you locate the information to answer them. You may want to highlight the text that will help you answer "Right There" questions in orange and "Think and Search" questions in green. (You may use any colors available to you – just remember your color scheme!)

After You Read:

- Think about how you will use the QA4 strategy to answer questions about what you read.
- Think about the signal words in the questions. How do they help you identify the question type? Discuss your ideas with your family and friends.
- Together create a collaborative *Think Aloud* about how you used QA4 to answer the questions. Share your *thinking* with each other.

Night Time Visitors

There were trees behind Jamie's house. Jamie's dad helped Jamie, Marcus and Kate build and paint a tree fort.

"It's perfect," said Jamie. "All we need are snacks."

Marcus brought cookies. Kate and Jamie brought apples. They stored them on a shelf in the fort.

The next morning, the snacks had disappeared! Instead of apples and cookies, they found only apple seeds and cookie crumbs.

"Who ate our snacks?" asked Jamie.

"We've got to find out," said Kate.

They put peanut butter crackers and three peaches on the shelf.

"Maybe they'll come back," said Jamie. "Let's spy from my kitchen window, once it gets dark."

That night, Jamie, Marcus and Kate watched from the window. They shined their flashlights at the tree fort.

Then they saw it. Something climbed up the tree. Another something followed it.

"Raccoons!" said Marcus.

"That's who ate our snacks!"





Compare Your Think Aloud With Josie's Think Aloud:

Josie's Think Aloud: The first question asks, "Who built the tree fort?" I know I'm going to answer a question about a character in the story when I read the signal word *who*. I'll scan the text to find the name of the character who built the fort. I think this is an *In the Book: Right There* question type because it is asking me for a single answer, but I'll continue scanning the text to be sure. Here it is, in the second sentence. It says, "Jamie's dad helped Jamie, Marcus and Kate build and paint a tree fort." I'll record this as my answer.

The second question asks, "What snacks did the three friends put in their fort?" When I read the word "snacks," I know I will be listing several foods because the word is plural. I'll search the text to make sure I include all of the snacks. In the third paragraph, I read, "Marcus brought cookies." I know cookies are a snack. The next sentence says, "Katie and James brought apples." I know apples are a snack. I'll continue to search the passage since think and search answers can be spread across the text. In the seventh paragraph, I read, "They put peanut butter crackers and three peaches on the shelf." I know peanut butter crackers and peaches are also types of snacks. My answer for this question is, "The three friends put cookies, apples, peanut butter crackers, and three peaches in their fort."

Questions and Answers:

Who built the tree fort?

Jamie's dad helped Jamie, Marcus and Kate build and paint a tree fort.

What snacks did the three friends put in their fort?

The three friends put cookies, apples, peanut butter crackers and three peaches in their fort.

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