

# SO, TELL ME THE STORY ABOUT THE STORY YOU JUST READ !

## Comprehension IS the Main Idea of Reading

Many beginning readers are working SO HARD on recognizing & reading the words correctly, they forget about what the words mean. This may take some time to develop. Slowing down will help. Periodic pausing for Prediction & Meaning questions are VERY important as well: What does that mean? What is happening? Why? What do you think is going to happen next? Why do you think that?

## THE THINKING HABITS OF GOOD READERS

**I CONNECT:** Has anything that is happening in this story ever happened to me or someone I know? Have I ever read or heard a story like this before? Does this story have anything to do with what is going on in the world?

**I IMAGINE:** What pictures can I create in my mind to help me “see” the words I am reading? Can I make a movie?

**I QUESTION:** Do I understand what the story is going to be about? What just happened during this part? Should I reread a part of the story to help me understand it better? Does the ending of the story make sense to me?

**I PREDICT:** What clues & thoughts have I read to help me think about what will happen next?

**I INFER:** What clues in the story will help me understand what is happening throughout the story?

**I SUM UP:** What was the story MOSTLY about? What are the most important events in the story?

## THOUGHT~PROVOKING QUESTIONS FOR UNDERSTANDING

- What would happen if.....? What did it mean when....? What else could have happened?
  - Where / When did the story change?
  - Why do you think the problem happened? Why is this event important to the story?
- How is this story the same / different as.....? How could the character have acted differently?

## THE RECOGNITION & IDENTIFICATION OF STORY ELEMENTS IN FICTION

**CHARACTERS:** Who (people, animals, things) is the story mostly about? Why are they important to the story?

**SETTING:** Where does the story mostly take place? Is that important to the story? When does the story happen?

**PROBLEM:** What happened to the characters in the story? How did it happen? Why did it happen to them?

**SOLUTION:** What are some of the ways the characters tried to solve the problem? How did the problem finally get solved? Why do you think that worked to solve the problem? Was there another way to solve the problem?

**STORY SEQUENCE:** What happened at the Beginning of the story? Then, what happened (Middle)? How did the story End? Why do you think it ended that way? What’s another way the story could have ended? Why?

## THE EXPLORATION & DISCOVERY OF THE FACTS IN NONFICTION

**TOPIC / MAIN IDEA:** What is the book mostly about? Why do you think the author wrote it?

**INFORMATION / DETAILS & FACTS:** What are the most important things the book is telling you? Can you name 5 new things you learned by reading this book? Did the book make you want to learn about something else?

**QUESTIONS:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?

## EXTENSIONS

Ask your child’s opinion of the book & why s/he feels that way. Have him/her give it a scaled 1-5 Star rating & tell why s/he rated it that way. Talk about what was real / not real about the story. See if s/he can understand a lesson or lessons the author was trying to express. Discuss other stories that may be teaching similar lessons. Engage her/him in cooking and/or crafting activities inspired by the story. Share it with others.