



St Monica's Catholic Primary School-Reading in Infants

Reading with greater fluency and being able to decode a range of unfamiliar words are key skills in reading. In addition to this, children need to demonstrate a deeper understanding of what they have read. This will allow them to fully master the skills of reading. The children are assessed using six assessment foci derived from the National Curriculum. Below are a range of questions linked to each assessment focus which you could ask your child when listening to them read daily to further develop their comprehension skills.

Assessment Focus 1 Word Reading

Use a range of strategies, including accurate decoding of text, to read for meaning.

Sound out this word. Can you blend these sounds to read the word?

How many syllables are there in this word and what are they?

Which punctuation can you identify in this part of the text? (, . ? !)

How would the character say this?

Can you read this section with expression?

Which strategy can we use to read this unfamiliar word? (Sound it out, use the pictures, break it into syllables)

Assessment Focus 2- Literal Understanding

Understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts and use quotation and reference to text.

What happened at the beginning, middle and end of the story?

Can you explain... part of the story?

Can you sequence the events in the correct order?

Did this happen first? What came before/after?

Can you find where...happened in the story?

Which part of the story tells you about...?

What was the main events in this section?

Can you tell me the main event in the story?

Assessment Focus 3- Inference and Deduction

Deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from texts.

Does this remind you of a story you have read before?

What do you think will happen next?

Why do you think that has happened? Can you explain?

What do you think the character will do next?

What questions would you ask the character ...?

Why do you think the character behaved in that way?

Have you met a similar character?

Assessment Focus 4- Structure & Language for effect

Identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts, including grammatical and presentational features at text level for effect. Explain and comment on writers' use of language, including grammatical and literary features at word and sentence level for effect and meaning.

Can you identify repetition in the story?

What do you think that word means?

What is this part of the book called? (front cover, blurb, back cover, title page, page number)

Is this book fiction or non-fiction? How do you know?

Which features can you identify? (heading, text, caption, page number, contents page, picture, glossary)

What is your favourite phrase from the book and why?

Can you identify any new words in the text?

Have you heard of these words before? What do they mean?

Assessment Focus 5- Purpose & Themes

Identify and comment on the writer's purposes and viewpoints and the overall effect of the text on the reader (likes/dislikes of the text, dilemmas, issues, arguments raised in the text). Relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts and literary traditions, important ideas, underlying themes (the central ideas running through the text).

How does the title link to the story?

Why do you think the author choose this title?

Have you ever felt the same as the main character? When?

Have you ever felt like the character of ...?

What would you do if you were the character of...?

Does this book remind you of anything you have done? Can you explain?

Assessment Focus 6- Attitudes, Discussion and Performance

Develop a positive attitude and love for reading within a wide range of texts, e.g. stories, poems and non-fiction. Discuss, debate, perform and present texts which they have read. Gain knowledge across the curriculum, e.g. increase vocabulary, develop imagination and use in their own writing.

What do you think of this book?

What type of book is this? (poem, fiction, non-fiction)

What is your favourite poem and why?

Can you recite your favourite poem?

What is your favourite type of literature? (story, poem, non-fiction, animal story, adventure, funny)

What is your favourite fairy tale/ traditional tale and why?

What do you think and feel about what I have just read to you?