

## Questions to support non-fiction texts

### Information Books

Including... Encyclopedias Dictionaries Cookery Books Atlases  
Tell me about the sort of person you think would use this book. Describe a time when you think they would use it.

What is the contents page/glossary for? Show me how to use it.

How does the way the title is written encourage you to read the book?

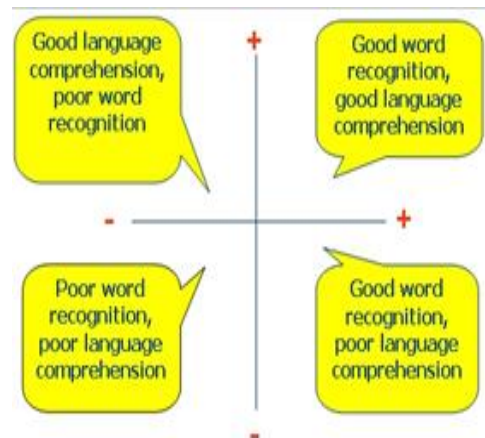
Does the blurb make you want to find out more? Explain why.

Which parts of the book could help you find the information you need? Show me.

What kind of book is this? How do you know? What will it be like? What can I expect from a book of this type?

How does the layout help the reader? Look for fact boxes, bold words, captions, definitions, subheadings and tables or charts. Teach me how to use these features.

How is this different to a story book? Compare.



#### Be Aware...

Encourage your child to re-read the text in order to find you direct quotes or examples to support their explanations.

*"Show me where it said that"*

*"How do you know that?"*

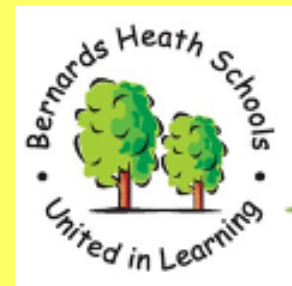
*"What word tells you that?"*

*"Find the sentence to explain..."*



## Year 1 Reading Support

*A selection of ideas for supporting good language comprehension at home.*



**Bernards Heath**  
Infant & Nursery School



## Reading at Home

At Bernards Heath Infant and Nursery School we promote a love of books from the earliest opportunity. We see day-to-day the benefits of children reading regularly at home, watching grown-ups take pleasure in reading both for themselves and with their children, reading to find out and learn new things, reading for fun or reading to relax.

Children who have broad experiences of books and reading demonstrate the ability to use ambitious and exciting vocabulary within their spoken language and their writing. They are able to actively participate in Science and Themed Learning lessons, researching, fact finding and learning new things.

This document has been created to help you support your child with their reading at home, on holiday, on car journeys, wherever a book can be enjoyed. It focuses on the **comprehension skills** your child needs to develop. We hope that the next few pages will support you in your questioning to develop your child's understanding.



## Questions to support fiction texts

### Story books

Read the blurb to begin with. Does it make you want to find out more? Why?

Does the way the title is written encourage you to read the book? Why?

Who are the main characters in this story? How do you know?

What do the characters look like? Can you describe them?

Where does the story take place? Is the setting a home, school, forest or somewhere else?

Tell me about the setting and try to describe where the characters live.

How do you feel about the characters/setting and why? Is this the sort of book you think you will enjoy? What makes you say that?

Can you explain why the story ended like it did? If you were the author, what would you have done differently?

If you were going to interview this character/author, what questions would you ask?

At the end of the story how is the main character feeling? Does this surprise you? Explain as fully as you can using parts of the story to help you.

What do you think the character is thinking?

Who would you like to meet most in the story? Why?

Draw a timeline, a story map or story mountain to retell this story. There is nearly always a problem and a resolution in a story. Who caused the problem and how was it solved?

Which is your favourite part? Tell me about it.