### The Reading Assessment Focuses – teaching strategies & questions to ask

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	Retrieval - Understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts and use quotation and reference to text
	<ul> <li>Encourage children to describe, retell, locate</li> <li>Model the above, making references to, and quoting from the text</li> <li>Ask recall and simple comprehension questions during Shared and Guided Reading</li> </ul>
2	<ul> <li>Where does the story take place?</li> <li>When did the story take place?</li> <li>What did he/she look like?</li> <li>Where did he/she live?</li> <li>Who are the key characters in the book?</li> <li>What happened in the story?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>What kinds of people are in the story?</li> <li>What is happening at this point in the story?</li> <li>Read the part that tells me</li> <li>Where did you find the information about?</li> </ul>
	Deduce, infer or interpret information, events or ideas from text.
3	<ul> <li>Encourage children to compare, contrast and infer</li> <li>Model the above by making reference to, and quoting from the text</li> <li>Ask analytical and synthesis questions</li> <li>Plan activities to develop children's cognitive and interpretive strategies</li> <li>What makes you think that?</li> <li>What words give you that impression? Why?</li> <li>How do you feel about? Why?</li> <li>Can you explain why?</li> <li>If you were going to interview this character/author, which questions would you ask?</li> <li>What sort of person do you think would use this book? Describe a time when you think they would use it.</li> <li>Which parts of the book could help you find the information you need?</li> <li>Do you agree with this opinion? Explain your own opinion using the texts to help you?</li> <li>At the end of the story the main character is feeling Does this surprise you? Explain as fully as</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>what does this tell you about whatwas thinking?</li> <li>Through whose eyes is the story told?</li> <li>Who was the storyteller? How do you know?</li> <li>Do you think this is true/untrue? Why do you think this?</li> <li>What do you think the is thinking? If it were you what would you be thinking?</li> <li>Which is your favourite part? Why? Which bit of the text shows this?</li> <li>Predict what you think is going to happen next. Why do you think this?</li> <li>Using all the evidence available, can you tell me what you feel about?</li> <li>Who would you like to meet most in the story? Why?</li> <li>Can you support your view with evidence?</li> <li>What is your opinion? What evidence do you have to support your view?</li> <li>Is this a place you could visit? Why/why not?</li> <li>How did one of the characters change during the story? Draw a timeline that shows the changes.</li> </ul>

# Identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts, including grammatical and presentational features at text level.

- Make very explicit links between reading and writing especially the ways in which texts are organised
- Model the language needed to comment upon author's use of structure, organisation, grammar and presentation
- Use genre checklists to highlight the layout features of different texts
- Ask analytical questions and questions requiring synthesis. During shared and guided reading sessions, focus on aspects of structure and organisation, e.g. paragraphs, labels, navigational features such as sub-headings, titles etc
- Use structural organisers, e.g. story maps, charts etc
- Were you surprised by the ending?
- How did you think it would end/should have ended?
- How are the beginning and ending of the story similar?
- What would happen if the order of events was changed?
- What kind of a text is this? How do you know? What will it be like? What can I expect of a book of this type?
- List the words that tell you what order to follow eg first, then.
- What is the main event of the story? Why do you think this?
- What is the purpose of the pictures?
- How does the layout help the reader?
- Some of the text is printed on a dark background. What effect do you think the designer wanted to achieve by doing this?
- How does the way the title is written encourage you to read the .....?
- In the leaflet, how have the different parts of the ...... been made clear?
- What are the lines in the photograph for?
- How do you know the order to follow the information in the text?
- Why have these words been made to stand out?
- Why are these words smaller but still in bold print?
- Why are some words in the glossary printed in italics like this?
- At the end of the story the author leaves you guessing about what will happen next. What do you think will happen next? Why do you think this?
- Why is this paragraph in bold print?
- What are the subheadings for?
- Why has some of the information been presented as a table?
- What is the purpose of the writing in the boxes?
- What do the arrows show you about the structure of the text?

# Explain and comment on the writers' uses of language, including grammatical and literary features at word and sentence level.

- Model and encourage the use of author intent prompts, e.g. 'It makes me imagine...'
- Ask analytical questions
- Plan activities to encourage children's semantic strategies
- Use reading journals to collect and comment on imagery
- I wonder what the writer intended by using these words?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the writer chose them?
- How has the author used adjectives to make this character funny?
- What do the physical descriptions of characters tell us about how they are feeling?
- Look at the verbs/adjectives/adverbs, what do these words tell us about.....?
- By writing the line in this way, what effect has the author created?
- What do these words tell you about .....?
- Which word encourages you to read the .....?
- What does the word scrambled tell you about the way Legs got dressed?
- Why do you think the author has mentioned ....... a lot in the story?
- Explain what you think this phrase adds to the story.
- Why did the author choose this title?
- What is the effect of writing in the past/present tense?
- Why do you think the writer has chosen to use the words .....?
- Why do you think the author has written this sentence in this way?
- Which author's style did you enjoy the most? Why?
- Do you want to read the rest of the text? How does the writer encourage you to read the rest of the text?
- How do these phrases help to make the description effective?
- How does the author make the ...... appear frightening?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- Which words and /or phrases do this?

5

## Identify and comment on writers' purposes and viewpoints and the overall effect of the text to the reader.

- Include purpose of text type on genre checklist
- Ask application, analytical, synthesis and evaluation questions, encourage children to elaborate on their responses, following the teacher's example
- Model and encourage the use of author intent prompts
- Can you think of another story that has a similar theme eg good over evil, weak over strong, wise over foolish?
- I wonder why the writer has decided to...?
- What was in the author's mind?
- Why did the author chose this setting?
- How would the views put across in these texts affect your views on....?
- What makes this a successful story? What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
- Could it be better? Is it as good as....?
- What effect does it have on you as a reader?
- Why do you think the writer wrote that description?
- What is the author trying to tell you about......by writing this section in .....? (eg short lines)
- What was the most exciting part of the story? Explain your answer as fully as you can?
- Which illustrations did you find most useful?
- Do you think that the writer believes that ...... exist? How can you tell that the writer has this opinion?
- What are the main contrasts the poet makes in the third and first parts of the poem?
- What impression of ......does the first paragraph give you? In what ways is the second paragraph different?
- The texts try to make you care about ............. Which do you think is the most effective? Why?
- What is ..... opinion about .....?
- If ...... was alive today would he be arguing for .....?
- What do you think makes this a successful story? Use evidence from the text for your answer?

#### Relate texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts and literary traditions.

- Ask questions that require children to call upon their knowledge of traditional stories to link ideas between texts
- Encourage children to link popular culture and stereotypes to characters and themes in their reading
- Use knowledge of history and outdated beliefs and attitudes to comment on texts
- Ask questions to encourage children to apply their knowledge and understanding of social dynamics to situations in their texts
- Do you know another story, which deals with the same issues eg social, cultural, moral issues?
- What would this character think about......? (Possibly a present day issue)
- Do you know any more stories like this?
- Have you ever read a book with a similar theme to this one?
- What does this remind you of?
- What does it make you think of?
- Do you know any more stories like this?
- Does this story remind you of any personal experience/something that has happened to you? Describe it.
- Have you ever been in that situation? What happened?
- How would you have felt in the same situation?
- What might you have done instead?
- Can you compare ...... to a person who has frightened you?
- How would you feel if you were treated like .....? What would you do?
- What do you think would have happened if....?
- Are there any familiar patterns you notice eg familiar story structure, imagery?
- What kind of a text is this? How do you know? What will it be like? What can I expect of a book of this type?
- Many traditional tales have messages. What do you think this story is trying to tell us?
- Which stories have openings like this?
- Do you know any other texts with similar issues or themes?
- Do you know another story with these characters in?
- Can you think of another story where the main character has problems with their family?

6