

Make Every Story a Conversation That Grows

A gentle framework for reading together — before, during, and after the story.

These templates guide you in asking gentle, open-ended questions **before, during, and after** a story. Each stage activates a different part of comprehension—prediction, reasoning, and reflection—without turning reading into a test.

When you use this framework, you'll help your child build **understanding, empathy, and confidence** step by step.

❖ How to Use

1. Choose **one or two questions** from each stage.
2. Keep it light — treat it like **curiosity, not a quiz**.
3. Use follow-up prompts from the **Response Scaffolding Guide** to keep the conversation going.

■ Pre · During · Post Question Templates

Before Reading PREDICT	During Reading REASON	After Reading REFLECT
? "Look at the title — what do you think this story might be about?"	? "Why do you think the character is feeling this way?"	? "How did the story make you feel?"
? "What do you notice on the cover?"	? "What might happen next?"	? "What was your favorite part?"
? "Have we read any stories like this before?"	? "How do you think she feels right now?"	? "Did the ending surprise you?"
? "What do you think this story might be about?"	? "What do you notice in the picture?"	? "What do you think the author wanted us to learn?"

■ Response Scaffolding Guide

When your child answers, try one of these gentle responses to encourage deeper thinking and keep the conversation flowing:

ENCOURAGE THINKING

"That's interesting — why do you think so?"

INVITE CHECKING

"Let's look at the picture to check."

BUILD LANGUAGE

"Can you say that in another way?"

AFFIRM OBSERVATION

"I like how you noticed that detail!"

❖ Try This Tonight

Pick one question from each stage and one scaffolded response:

BEFORE "What do you think this story might be about?"

DURING "Why do you think he said that?"

AFTER "How did it make you feel?"

The goal isn't right answers — it's connection, curiosity, and confidence.