

Discussion Questions for Reading and Oracy

Pre-reading:

- Why are you reading (purpose e.g. fun, information, learning writing style etc.)?
- What is the text about (use titles, images, structure, format, context of lessons, skim pages)?
- What do you already know about the topic (what do they know, what links can they make, what else might they find out)?
- How will you go about reading (listen to yourself, listen to others, read in head, create images, work out meaning of new words or guess, go back and re-read)?

During reading:

- Where will you pause to think about what you've read?
- When you come across a word that's new to you, what will you do?
- Will you listen to yourself reading out loud?
- Is it helpful to listen to someone else?
- Will you use the punctuation to help you work out the meaning?
- Will you form a picture in your mind from what you have read?
- Will you imagine yourself there?
- If you lose your way, will you go back?
- Will you ask questions while reading the text (e.g. What has this told me? What will happen next?)?
- Will you remind yourself why you are reading and how you are going about reading?

After reading:

- What did you learn?
- How well did the writer set out the information or story to help you understand?
- What reading strategies helped while you were reading?
- Did you learn anything new or unusual?
- Why did the writer write this material?
- How well do you remember the information?

Remembering strategies:

- Describe the main ideas briefly.
- Connect new info to what is already known.
- Draw a picture of the ideas.
- Draw a map of the ideas.
- Think about when these ideas could be used in the future.
- What new words were found in the text?
- When might you find these new words in the future?
- What words did you find hard to read and why?