



Comment ideas for a child's Reading Record

Listed below are some comments which may help you when writing in a child's Reading Record to describe how and what they have read.

To build a realistic picture and encourage each child appropriately, it is essential to record both positive and developmental comments which will help them improve. The statements below are just a guide; please feel free to alter the wording and write what best suits the reading experience.

- Read familiar words independently (for example...)
- Struggled to sound out new words independently (for example...)
- Able to predict what might happen next in the text
- Showed a clear understanding of the text, responding to questions
- Summarised what he/she had read
- Read with clear expression/fluency
- Used punctuation to clarify meaning of the text
- Worked out new words independently/by sounding them out/with support
- Discussed the story and how the characters have changed
- Discussed the personality of a character with evidence (used a quotation)
- Self-corrected own errors independently
- Used picture clues to develop their understanding of the text
- Able to read this book but needed lots of help with vocabulary
- Discovered the meaning of a new word/words

Reading with a child - question prompts

Explain the meaning of words

- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc.?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy/sad/angry/frustrated/lonely/bitter etc.?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?

Retrieve and record information

- Where does the story take place?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- What do you think is happening here?

Summarise main ideas

- What's the main point in this paragraph?
- Can you explain why...?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?

Make inferences from the text

- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about...?
- Can you explain why...?
- I wonder what the writer intended?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?

Predict what might happen

- *Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish? Do you think this story will go the same way?*
- *Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence how the story develops?*
- *How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?*

Explain how information is related

- *Explain why a character did something.*
- *What is similar/different about two characters?*
- *Why is 'x' (character/setting/event) important?*

Make comparisons within the text

- *How is it similar to ...? / How is it different to ...?*
- *Compare and contrast different character/settings/themes in the text*
- *What do you think about the way information is organised in different parts of the text? Is there a reason for why this has been done?*