

TALKING ABOUT BOOKS

There are two types of questions.

1. **Yes / no questions.** Your child responds with yes or no.
 - Example: Did you like this chapter? Answer: yes.
2. **Open questions.** Your child gives more information on the book.
 - Example: What did you think the best chapter was? Answer: The second chapter, because that was very exciting!

TIPS

1. Ask many open questions. Your child will talk more easily.
2. Ask another question!
 - Example: *Why* was the second chapter exciting?

Sample questions about books

- Who do you think is the funniest or the most boring character? Why?
- What did you find the most exciting chapter? Why?
- Which of the characters do you want to be? Why?

CULTURAL CONVERSATIONS

There are two types of questions.

1. **Yes / no questions.** Your child responds with yes or no.
 - Example: did you play outside during the break? Answer: yes.
2. **Open questions.** Your child will probably tell you more.
 - Example: What did you like the most at the Nemo Museum? Answer: The bubble machine!

TIPS

1. Ask many open questions. Your child will probably tell you more.
2. Ask a second question!
 - Example: What did you like about that? Answer: I had the feeling that I was floating in the air, like a real bubble.

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS AT A THEATER PERFORMANCE

Before the show

- Where would you like to go?
- What do you think of when you read the title of the piece? What do you think it's about?
- Do you think it is a funny piece or a thrilling piece? Why?

After the show

- What did you think of the show? Why?
- Which of the characters did you like best? Why?
- Which of the characters would you like to be? Why?
- What was the story about?
- What did you think the most exciting or the craziest part of the piece was?
- Would you have acted the same way as one of the characters in the story? Why?

PARENTS STARTING A CONVERSATION

There are two types of questions.

1. **Yes / no questions.** Your child responds with yes or no.
 - Example: Did you have fun at school? Answer: yes.
2. **Open questions.** Your child will then tell you about a person or something nice that has happened.
 - Example: What made you happy today? Answer: I was happy when I was playing with Hamid and Bart during the break. We were playing a very nice game.

TIPS

1. Ask many open questions. In that way, your child will probably tell you more.
2. Ask a second question! Example: What was nice about the game that you were playing?

Sample questions

- What was the nicest / most stupid thing today at school?
- What weird / funny word did you hear today? Why did you find it was weird or funny?
- If you were to write a book, what would it be about?
- If you gave 100 euros to a charity: which one would you choose?
- If you could ask a question to a wild animal, what would you ask?

READ-ALONG-PARENTS

There are two types of questions.

1. **Yes / no questions.** Your child responds with yes or no.
 - Example: Did you like this chapter? Answer: yes.
2. **Open questions.** Your child will talk about a person or something that happened at school.
 - Example: What did you think was the best chapter of the book? Answer: The second chapter, because that was very exciting!

TIPS

1. Ask many open questions. In that way, your child will probably talk more.
2. Ask a second question.
 - Example: Why was the second chapter exciting?

Sample questions about a book

- Who do you think is the funniest or the most boring character? Why?
- What did you think was the most exciting chapter? Why?
- Which of the characters do you want to be? Why?

Card on your head

You receive a card with the name of a person, object or animal. Guess who or what you are. Ask the other person questions. For example: Am I a man? Am I an animal? Do I have wings? Do I have hair? Am I fruit? Am I still alive? Do I have four wheels? Do I have a curly tail? Do I give light?

1. At first, make the rules together.
 - What kind of people can you choose? Everybody? Or just famous people?
 - Can you also choose animals? Or objects?
 - Does it have to fit within a topic from the Summer School? For example: body parts, vehicles, inventions?
2. Write a name, animal or object on a card. Stick the card on the back or forehead of someone else who is playing.
3. Ask questions and guess who you are.

Tip: Do you want to see what words your child has learned? Let your child make the cards; in that way you can repeat those words.



OBSERVATION LESSON

Talk to your child

- You learned the table of 10 today. How did you like that?
- What did you prefer: arithmetics or reading? Why?
- You helped Tom reading in his book. Did you like that? Why?
- You did not pay attention during arithmetics. What did you think then?

Talk to the teacher

- My child worked with the same child all the time. Why is that?
- At some moments in class, my child did not pay attention. How did that happen?
- My child really enjoyed the language assignment. How can I help at home with this kind of assignments?
- My child asked a lot of attention in class. How did that happen?
- My child helped another child today. Do they help each other more often in class?

