

Discussion Questions

- **Discuss the character's actions.**

What would you have done?

Do you think that was a good idea?

Was that a kind thing to do?

What do you think he meant when he said?

What could he have done instead?

- **Discuss the plot**

What do you think will happen when?

Why do you think he said/ did that?

How do you think they'll manage/ do that etc.?

- **Discuss the pictures – often good to do before reading the text to help your child in anticipating what is going to happen, or which vocabulary to expect page by page.**

Which one do you think is Toby etc?

What do you think they're going to do?

What do you think that is?

- **Scanning material – A vital skill for reading comprehension and dictionary work.**

Can you find the word 'annoying' on that page?

Can you find the part where Sophie was playing on the swing?

What did Sophie's mum say when she brought in the cat? Can you find it?

- **Spelling strategies and word recognition**

Can you find the word 'night' on that page?

Now can you find/think of any others which have the same 'ight' pattern?

Why have they used the word hear in that sentence, but here in this sentence?

Can you explain the difference to me?

- **Help broaden your child's vocabulary**

Can you choose a word that you like/don't like?

Why do you think they used that word?

Do you think you could use that word in your writing tomorrow?

That's a fun word, I wonder if you can use that when you speak to your friends/Grandma/sister tomorrow.

Don't forget – many of these sample questions are focussed on your child, but he/she will gain from your responses to these questions! If you seem to be genuinely enjoying talking about the book, your child will too!