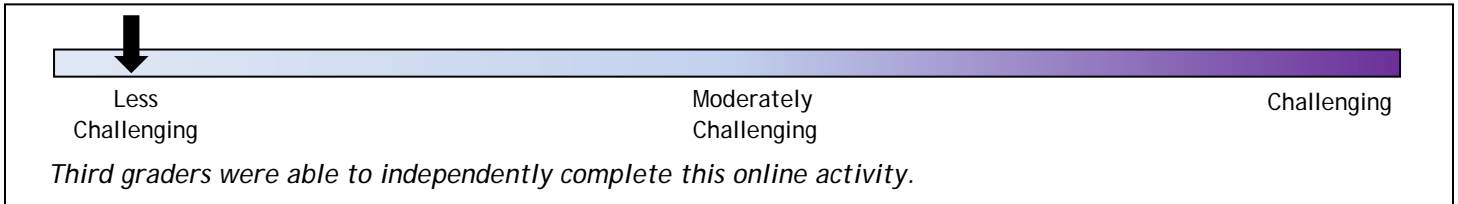


Teacher Guide to Online Activity: Questioning - Keys to Understanding

Summary:

Students ask and answer questions to help develop deeper understanding of a text as they travel through a castle. After they conduct this close reading, they must categorize their questions as "In the book" or "In my head" questions.

To view the standards this activity addresses, visit: <http://reading.ecb.org/teacher/standards.html>



Teaching Tips:

If students are using iPads, remind them they can use *Siri* (an iPad feature that will type student input into the text fields).

During this activity, students sometimes find it challenging to:

- Write a question
 - Supply students with sentence starters such as:
Why...? What if...? How did...? What does...? Who...? Where...?
 - Model some questions for students about vocabulary, word choice, author's intent, character development, illustrations, and so forth as well as meaning.

Before you start:

- Remind students to read and listen carefully to the instructions.
- Explain the difference between "In the book" and "In my head" questions if necessary. (Other terms they may be familiar with would be "thin and thick" or "shallow and deep.")
- If a question is an "In the book" question (like "What was his brother's name"), students should use the "In the book" category *even if they didn't find the answer in the story*.
- Let students know that it's OK if they do not find answers to all of their questions.
- Remind students that you will be reviewing their questions. (Students may discover that they can type nonsense instead of a question – but you will see it if they do!)
- Tell students what to do when they finish a story (read another text, print/email their work, listen to the Questioning song, etc.).

After you finish:

- Review students' work to assess the depth and sophistication of their questions and answers.
- Using printouts or emails of student work, discuss students' questions about each story. Students could be divided into small groups to discuss which questions:
 - helped you understand the story?
 - made you more interested in the story?
 - did you find answers for? did you not find answers for?
- Discuss: Why do you think "In my head" questions are worth more than "In the book" questions?
- Continue to work with students to encourage them to ask deeper questions as they are reading.

Screen-by-screen Preview:

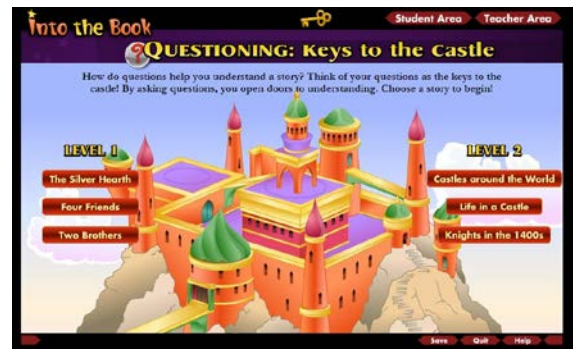
First watch a short video tutorial about how to do the activity.

Then click:

- Try it Yourself to begin the activity
- Replay to play the tutorial again
- Watch Video to watch a clip from *Into the Book* that reviews questioning



Next, click on a title to choose a text. The three, level one texts are similar to textbook excerpts about castles and are written at a lower reading level. The three, level two texts are middle-eastern folk tales.



Study the text and illustrations closely. Type a question about the section in the text box.

Click Done.



The question will appear in a red box.

Click here if you can answer this will appear in yellow text below the question.

- Choose Click here if you can answer this to answer the question, or
- Click Open the Door to continue without answering



There are six sections for each text. For each:

- Type a question in the text box
- Click Done

After the question appears in the red box:

- Answer the question, or
- Click **Open the Door** to Continue without answering

At any time, click a previous question to answer it.

At the end of the story, check to see if any more questions can be answered. Questions that have been answered will appear purple.

Remind students that it is OK to leave some questions unanswered.

Sort the six questions into two categories: "In the Story" and "In My Head."

A score is then tabulated. Questions that were "In the Story" receive one point; questions that were "In My Head" earn two points.

After the activity, click:

- Email Your Questions and Answers
- Print Bookmark and Your Questions
- Listen to Questioning Song;
- Read Another Story to ask questions about another text
- Go Back to the Student Main Menu

