

Things good readers do to improve comprehension: Preview, Predict, Connect, Question, Infer, Summarize, and Evaluate. Here are some questions you can ask yourself about your nightly reading...

Preview: Before reading the story or article, look at the title. What do you think the story will be about based on the title? What do you know about the topic to begin with? Who is the Author? What do you know about the author already? Have you read any other books by the same author?

Predict: What will happen next? Was your prediction correct--or perhaps the author didn't make that choice?

Connect: Does this story or article remind you of any other books you have read? Does it remind you of something else you are learning in science, social studies, math, art or music? What do you already know about the time period in which the story takes place? Have events in your own life been similar to the events in the story?

Question: Does what I am reading make sense to me? Does reading the story create more questions? Are you saying to yourself, "I wonder..." as you're reading?

Infer: Read between the lines. Why does the character make the choices he/she does? How does the character feel? Often you have to use your own life experiences to decide how the characters are feeling.

Summarize: What has happened in the story so far? Can you retell the story and include information about the characters, setting (where/when the story takes place), main events, and the main idea?

Evaluate: What is the author's purpose? What makes the story/article worth reading? Does the author do a good job explaining the topic? Is the author's writing descriptive enough so that you are able to form images in your mind as you read?