

Read Aloud Questions to Spark Discussion

Read alouds are not only a great way to teach literacy to children and students, but also a way to reinforce social emotional skills. Children and adolescents can put themselves in the shoes of the characters and identify their emotions, analyze the decisions made and more. Use these questions with any picture book to prompt discussion and further explore social emotional learning.

Self Awareness

1. How was the main character feeling at the beginning of the story?
In the middle of the story? In the end of the story?
2. How did you know the character was feeling ____?
3. What clues did the author give you to let you know that?
4. How would you feel if you were the main character in this story?
5. Why did the character feel that way?
6. What is one thing the main character could be proud of?

Self Management

1. When did the main character have to stop and think about how they are feeling?
2. How did the main character motivate themselves throughout the story?
3. How did the characters react when they were having a hard time?
4. What would you say to the main character to help them work through their challenges?
5. How would you have liked to respond if you were the main character?
6. What Emoger or emotional management strategies could the main character have put into place for themselves?

Social Awareness

1. How were the characters similar to one another? How were they different?
2. How are you similar to the main character? How are you different?
3. When did you relate to the main character? When have you felt the same emotion as the main character?
4. How did the characters show respect for one another?

Relationship Skills

1. How did the characters communicate with one another? What are other ways the characters could have communicated their needs?
2. What did the main character do when they needed help?
3. When did the characters work with each other well? When did they not?
4. What would you say to the main character if you could speak to them right now?
5. What strategies did the characters use to resolve conflicts?

Decision Making

1. What was one tough decision the character had to make?
2. Why was this decision difficult? How did the character know they had a difficult problem to deal with?
3. What are some things the character could have done to help them make their decision?
4. How did the characters solve the problem/ make the decision?
5. What else could the character have done to solve the problem?

