Useful questions to ask when listening to your child read

Retrieval

- When and where did the story take place?
- Who are the main characters?
- Where in the book would you find?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which words and phrases do this?
- Find a word that means
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?

Being a 'word detective!'

- What does this word/ phrase/ sentence tell you about the character/ mood/ setting...?
- In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The author uses words like to describe, what does this tell you?
- What other words/ phrases could the author have used here?
- How is the author trying to make you feel? How do you know?
- Find two different ways that the author shows you
- Which words are most important and why?

Summarising

- What's the main point in this paragraph?
- Can you summarise this chapter in three sentences?
- Highlight the sentences which talk about the same topic.

Making Inferences

- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about?
- Can you explain why?
- I wonder why the writer decided to?
- I wonder what the writer intended here?
- What do these words mean & why do you think that the author chose them?
- How does the character feel? How do you know?

Comparing and Contrasting

- Describe different characters' reactions in the story.
- How is it similar different to?
- What do you think about the way the information has been organised in different parts of the text? What are the reasons for this?
- Which do you prefer and why?