Examples of Questions to support Reading Comprehension In Key Stage 2
Questions to support Reading Comprehension Focuses

2a
give / explain the meaning of words in context

2b
retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

2c
summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph

2d
make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

2e
predict what might happen from details stated and implied

2f
identify / explain how information / narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole

2g
identify / explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases

2h
make comparisons within the text
2a: Give/explain the meaning of words in context

- The writer uses words like ... to describe .... What does this suggest about...
  (character/setting)?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- Which word most closely matches the meaning of the word x?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- Which of these words...... is a synonym for (choose a word from the text)?
- Find and copy one word meaning......
- Give the meaning of the word...... in this sentence
- Circle the correct option to complete this sentence (provide synonyms/phrases
  with similar meanings to replace at the end of the sentence)
- What does this phrase mean? (idiomatic or figurative language)
2b: Retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

- Where/when does the story take place?
- What did s/he/it look like?
- Where did s/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find...?
- What is happening at this point in the text?
- What happened in the story?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- What part of the story do you like best? Find evidence to support your opinion.
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
- Write down 3 things you are told about ... (character/setting/subject of the text)
- What was revealed at .... (beginning, middle, end, paragraph)
- Which of these statements is true/false?
2c: Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph

✓ What’s the main point in this paragraph?
✓ Can you sum up what happens in these three/four/five... paragraphs?
✓ You’ve got ‘x’ words; sum up these paragraphs.
✓ Sort the information in these paragraphs. Do any of them deal with the same information?
✓ Make a table/chart to show the information in these paragraphs.
✓ Which is the most important point in these paragraphs? How many times is it mentioned?
✓ Write sub-headings for each paragraph
2d: Make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text

✓ What makes you think that?
✓ Which words give you that impression?
✓ How can you tell that...?
✓ Can you explain why...?
✓ Explain what x (phrase with challenging vocabulary) suggests about x.
✓ What does this... word/phrase/sentence... imply about...

(character/setting/mood)?
2e: Predict what might happen from details stated and implied.

- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish? Do you think this story will go the same way?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issues; e.g. social; moral; cultural? Could this happen in this story?
- Which other author handles time in this way; e.g. flashbacks; dreams?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think this story will develop in the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence how the story develops?
- How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?
- Do you think x will happen? Tick one (from yes/no/maybe). Explain your answer with evidence from the text.
2f: Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole

✓ Explain why a character did something.

✓ Explain a character's different/changing feelings throughout a story.

  How do you know?

✓ What are the clues that a character is liked/disliked/envied/feared/loved/hated etc...?

✓ What is similar/different about two characters?

✓ Why is 'x' (character/setting/event) important in the story?

✓ What is the story (theme) underneath the story? Does this story have a moral or a message?

✓ Why do you think the author chose to use a...

  question/bullet/subheading/table etc to present the information?

✓ How does the title/layout encourage you to read on/find information?

✓ Where does it tell you that...(could be information contained in headings/glossaries/labels etc.)?

✓ Why has the writer written/organised the text in this way?

✓ In what ways do the illustrations support the instructions?

✓ How could these instructions/information/illustrations be improved?

✓ Draw lines to match each part of the text to the correct quotation.
2g: Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases

✓ What does the word 'x' tell you about 'y'?
✓ Find two or three ways that the writer tells you 'x'.
✓ What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?
✓ Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?
✓ In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?
✓ The writer uses words like ... to describe .... What does this tell you about a character or setting?
✓ What other words/phrases could the author have used?
✓ The writer uses ...words/phrases to describe ... How does this make you feel?
✓ What do you think the writer meant by... 'x'?
✓ Which words do you think are most important? Why?
✓ Which words do you like the best? Why?
✓ The author makes an action-description 'like' something else. Why?
✓ The author states that 'x' is something it isn't. What is the effect of this? Why have they done this?
✓ Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?
✓ How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/ frustrated/lonely/bitter etc?
✓ What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?
✓ What impression do these words... give you about... (use a synonym for the previous words)?
2h: Make comparisons within the text.

✓ Describe different characters' reactions to the same event in a story.

✓ How is it similar to ...?

✓ How is it different to ...?

✓ Is it as good as ...?

✓ Which is better and why?

✓ Compare and contrast different character/settings/themes in the text

✓ What do you think about the way information is organised in different parts of the text? Is there a reason for why this has been done?