

Quick Dive Into Reading Conferences

Most independent reading conferences tend to travel one of three paths. We suggest starting with the first row and progressing as a reader shows readiness.

Book Match —Is the reader matched well to the book?	
<p>Questions/Prompts for Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell me why you chose this book. (Probe further: “What do you like about the cover?”, “What did your friend tell you about it?”, “What about this author?”) • Can you read a few paragraphs out loud? • Does this part of the book make you want to keep reading the book? Why? 	<p>Teacher Response/Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that reading should feel enjoyable/understandable. Help them find a book like this. • Provide supports: Audio version? A partner to read/discuss with? • Are they reading a book that they are a content expert in or have seen the movie? Help them draw on this.
Habits —What is the reader’s volume, stamina, and focus?	
<p>Questions/Prompts for Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many pages did you read in the last ___ minutes? • What just happened in the story? Can you show me on the page? • What are you visualizing as you read? Can you show me where? • Who are the main characters? Tell me something about them. Can you show me where you got this idea about the character? 	<p>Teacher Response/Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a goal: Count ahead ___ pages and place a goal sticky note. • Help find a place to read that will allow greater focus. • Put “pause” sticky notes throughout the book, at the ends of chapters or every 5-10 pages. Stop and jot at each one. • Teach key questions for the genre they are reading (Biography: challenges? accomplishments?).
Applying Skills —Is the reader working toward standards?	
<p>Questions/Prompts for Student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In class, we’ve been working on _____. Can you show me where/how you practiced this in your book? • I noticed you wrote _____. Can you tell me a bit more about what you were thinking and where in the book? • Can you explain (concept/skill/strategy) in your own words? What are some ways readers can go about applying _____? 	<p>Teacher Response/Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach skill with a familiar and/or short text • Teach a different strategy aimed at the same skill • Teach the prerequisite or lower level skill needed to reach this skill. • Teach a new application or next level of a skill