

Questions to Support Comprehension of Nonfiction

Making Connections:

- What do you already know about this topic?
- How does this book remind you of other texts you have read?
- What have you experienced in your life that helps you understand this topic?
- What useful information does this text provide?
- What is your interest in this topic?
- How does this information fit with what you already know?

Content:

- Why is this topic or important?
- What perspective does the author take on this topic or person?
- What are at least 10 unknown words to you? Write the meanings in your words.
- Were there parts of the book you didn't understand? What puzzled you? What questions do you still have about this topic?
- What did you learn about this topic?
- What do you want to learn more about?

Accuracy and Authenticity:

- How up to date is this information?
- Is there evidence provided to support what the author says?
- Are the pictures authentic? Do they look real?
- Are the facts and information consistent with other sources?
- Is any important information missing?
- Does the author show the difference between fact and opinion?
- Is there any information that could be misleading?

Text Structure and Organization:

- What are the ways the author presents information on this topic?
- How is this information organized?

Text Features:

- What does the title tell you about this book?
- How do the headings and subheadings help you find information?
- What information is found in pictures, diagrams, maps, charts, etc.?
- How does table on contents (index, glossary, bibliography, etc.) help you?
- What information did you get from labels, legends, and captions?
- Are these text features easy to use? How did they help you get information?
- How does the format of the text help you to understand the topic better?

Author:

- Who is the author of this book?
- How does the author use experiences and knowledge to do a good job providing information?
- How does the author feel about this topic? What is the author's perspective?
- What has the author said to make you question the accuracy of the information?
- Would you want to read other books by this author? Why or why not?