

The Balanced Reader: Comprehension

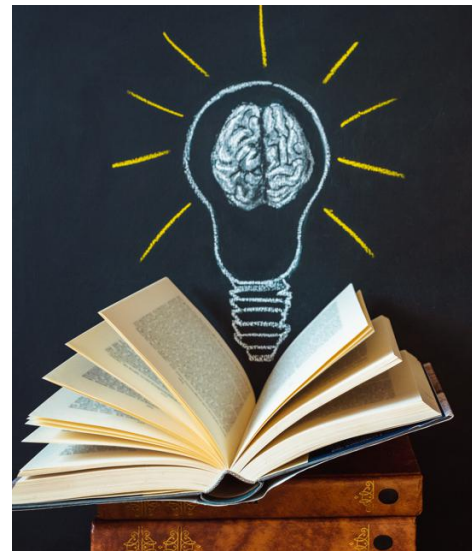
Without proper comprehension skills, students lack the ability to understand what they read... Having excellent reading comprehension skills is crucial. It increases the enjoyment and effectiveness of reading and helps not only academically, but in a child's personal life.



Talk about what they're reading.

This "verbal processing" helps them remember and think through the themes of the book. Ask questions before, during, and after a session to encourage reading comprehension.

- *Before*: "What are you interested in about this book? What doesn't interest you?"
- *During*: "What's going on in the book? Is it turning out the way you thought it would? What do you think will happen next?"
- *After*: "Can you summarize the book? What did you like about it? What other books does it remind you of?"



Supplement their class reading.

If your child's class is studying a particular theme, look for easy-to-read books or magazines on the topic. Some prior knowledge will help them make their way through tougher classroom texts and promote reading comprehension.