

Talk Show



Common Core Standard

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Basically this means your child can....

Use specific details in a story to help describe a character, setting or event in the story.

Background Information:

By the end of fourth grade, children are expected to be able to read and understand literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry. They should be able to tell all the important details of a character from a story, including how they think and act. A fourth grader should be able to use specific details from the story to support their description.

What You Need:

- Fictional book your child has recently enjoyed
- Interview questions (see following)

Activity Instructions:

In this activity, your child will portray their favorite book character, being interviewed on a talk show, while you pretend to be the talk show host. You and your child will enjoy this fun way to look at a character in detail.

1. Ask your child to pick their favorite character from a book. Tell your child that they are going to pretend to be that character, and you both are going to pretend that you are on a talk show. You will be the interviewer.
2. Ask your child to really think about their character. How do they talk? What do they look like? Encourage your child to go find clothing and/or props to help them feel more like the character.
3. While your child is gone, create an interview space, like two chairs facing each other. You can also find a "microphone" (a large mixing spoon works great for this) to do your interviewing.
4. When your child returns, welcome them to your show and ask them to have a seat. Ask your child the interview questions attached. Your child should be answering the questions from the perspective of the character. Encourage your child to try to talk like the character.
5. Your child will have to make up answers to some of the questions. Some of the questions may address things that were never talked about in your child's book. Just remind your child to answer the way they think the character would answer. Feel free to make up additional questions specific to the book or to continue talk about a particular subject. (Asking "why" questions will really get your child thinking!) Have fun using your imaginations together!

Extension:

After reading any book, use the question cards to ask your child reading comprehension questions. As your child develops an understanding of these questions, you can ask additional comprehension questions as well. For example, you might ask "What do you think the characters were feeling?" or "What would you have done in this situation?"



Interview Questions

- What is your name?
- How old are you?
- Where do you live?
- Tell me about your family.
- Who is your best friend?
- What do you like to do?
- What was your most memorable experience in life?
- Who is your least favorite person?
- What do you like to eat?
- If you could go anywhere, where would you go?
- Tell me something you are proud of.
- If you could go back and do something over again, what would it be? What would you do differently or better this time?
- What are your plans for the future?

