



Predicting is a before reading comprehension strategy in which readers think about what they are going to read based on clues from the text. Predicting helps readers to organize their thinking as they encounter new material. It is important to listen to your child's predictions about the story and guide him or her towards making reasonable predictions, meaning the prediction is likely to happen. A prediction is not a "wild guess," but an educated guess based on clues from the author.

Step 1: Have your child select a book to read with you or by his or herself.

Step 2: Ask your child a few of these questions before they or you begin reading the story.

- What can you predict about the story from the front and back cover of the book?
- What does the title tell you about the story?
- Who or what do you predict this story will be about? Why do you think so?
- Where and when do you think the story will take place?
- Do you think there will be a problem in this story? Why or why not?
- What other stories have you read that are like this one? In what ways?
- Does the topic/story relate to you or your family? How?
- Have you read anything else by this author? Do you see any similarities between this story and the author's other stories?
- What questions do you have about this story?

Step 3: While you or your child are reading, be sure to check his or her predictions about the story. Remember that a reasonable prediction might not come true, but it is likely to happen.