SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD
WITH READING / SATS PREPARATION

Give / explain the meaning of words in context (2a)

Synonyms Find and copy one word meaning 'x'. Which word most closely matches the meaning of the word 'x'?	Choose three words from the passage you've just read with your child. Ask them to come up with as many synonyms (words that mean the same) as possible. Use a thesaurus to help you. e.g. colossal – big, massive, huge, gigantic, etc.
Tricky Vocabulary Find and copy one word that suggests that... (e.g. ...that suggests that Caitlin is sad.)	Ask your child which words are unfamiliar to them. Use the text around it to work out what it could mean. Look it up in a dictionary to check if you are right.

Retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction (2b)

Go fetch! Quick fact-finding Write down three things that you are told about [x]. Are these statements true or false? Extension – point to (or write down) the place in the text that supports your decision.	Can your child quickly find key facts from the text (s)he has just read? e.g. details about how someone looks, names, dates, place names, etc. Make up some true and false statements about your child's book. Can they prove their answer from the text?
Order of events What did [character] have to do in order to...? (e.g. What did Joy have to do in order to get her dad to listen to her?) What was revealed at the end of the chapter / story?	Give your child three or four events from the chapter and ask her to put them into order. Draw a story map (little picture prompts) of the key events and then retell the story without the book.

Summarising (2c)

Summing up What is the main idea in this paragraph? What is the main idea of the whole text / chapter?	Challenge your child to reduce a whole chapter into a 'tweet' (140 characters) OR 12 words. This can also be done with non-fiction. Reduce a paragraph to three key points. Then reduce it again to 6 words. Explain the main idea to me in 12 words. Talk about how structural features (like sub-headings, fact boxes, etc) help the reader to understand the information.

Make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text (2d)

Smart Guessing! Finding the writer's clues and working out what they mean... How can you tell that...? (e.g. How can you tell that Aaron is angry?) [In response to a whole paragraph or short passage] What impressions of [...] do you get from this section? Why did...? (e.g. Why did Jasmine not want to visit the museum?) How do you know that...? (e.g. How do you know that Jane was reluctant to let her son go on the school trip?) What evidence is there that...? (e.g. What evidence is there that Mr Smock is not to be trusted?) [In response to a quotation with some tricky vocabulary] Explain what this description suggests about [character / place].	Draw two columns on a piece of paper. Down one side, write down all the facts you know about a character or place from the reading book. On the other side, add your impressions (ideas you have got from clues – your own opinions). E.g. Fact – the character only has a few items in his fridge. Impressions – maybe he is poor; maybe he is not very organised at getting his shopping done; maybe he is not at home much. Talk about the little clues we use to form impressions about people. Try to find little clues about people in the books you're reading. Talk about motivation – what is making the characters in the book behave in the way they are? Ask questions that start with 'why'. Encourage your child to back up his ideas with evidence from the text.

Predict what might happen from details stated and implied. (2e)

Predictions Do you think that...in the future? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. Based on what you know so far...	Ask your child to tell you what she thinks will happen next in the book. Encourage her to back up the ideas with evidence from the text. e.g. based on the way Freddy has behaved so far, what do you think he will do on Sports Day? Talk about the personalities of the characters in the book. How many adjectives can you come up with to describe their personalities? Try to be precise. Talk about how your personality affects the way you behave.