**Question Stems**

We are actively involved in using questioning strategies to improve our understanding of the subjects we are studying. For instance, your child should be reading at least 30 minutes NIGHTLY. Asking them questions about what they are reading will help improve their comprehension! Below are Marzano's Questioning Stems - they are listed in order of difficulty from easy to hardest.

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| **Skills** |
| **Knowing****Defining problems:** clarifying needs, discrepancies, or puzzling situations**Setting goals:** establishing direction and purpose**Observing:**obtaining information through one or more senses**Formulating question:** seeking new information through inquiry**Encoding:** storing information in long-term memory**Recalling:** retrieving information from long-term memory**Useful Verbs:***list, name, label, recall, identify, match, chooseExample questions:When was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Identify the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Define the word  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Who did \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Who is the narrator of the story?Tell about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.List (facts, details, attributes)Which picture shows \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Match \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.What is the purpose of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Describe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.* |
| **Organizing****Arranging information** so it can be used effectively**Comparing:** noting similarities and differences between or among entities**Classifying:**grouping and labeling entities on the basis of their attributes**Ordering:**sequencing entities according to a given criterion**Representing:**changing the form but not the substance of information**Useful Verbs:** *categorize, group, classify, compare, contrastExample Questions:How else might you say \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Describe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  Tell how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  Compare\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.What is the purpose of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Sequence/Put \_\_\_\_\_\_\_in order of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ greater than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Why is it called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Explain why \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  What caused \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Find the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Make a diagram/chart/graphic organizer that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Sort the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Categorize the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.* |
| **Applying****Demonstrating prior knowledge** within a new situation. The task is to bring together the appropriate information, generalizations or principles that are required to solve a problem.**Useful Verbs***: apply, make, show, record, construct, demonstrate, illustrateExample Questions:Give some instance in which \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Which of these would best demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Dramatize/Pantomime/ Act out \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Show how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.Illustrate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.* |
| **Analyzing****Clarifying existing information** by examining parts and relationships**Identifying attributes and components:**determining characteristics or parts of something**Identifying relationships and patterns:** recognizing ways in which elements are related**Identifying main ideas:**identifying the central element; for example, the hierarchy of key ideas in a message or line of reasoning**Identifying errors:**recognizing logical fallacies and other mistakes and where possible, correcting them**Useful Verbs**: *outline, diagram, differentiate, analyzeExample Questions:What part of this could be real?  Make believe?What would be a good title for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?How are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ related?Compare \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.How are they alike?  Different?Explain the main idea.Which words best describe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Outline the important \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.* |
| **Generating****Producing new information, meaning, or ideas****Inferring:**going beyond available information to identify what reasonably may be true**Predicting:**anticipating next events, or the outcome of a situation**Elaborating:**explaining by adding details, examples, or other relevant information**Useful Verbs:***conclude, predict, explain, elaborate, inferExample Questions:If you had been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, what would you have done differently?How many ways can you think of to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?What would happen if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Predict what would be true if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?How can you explain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Pretend/ Make-believe/ Imagine\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Now that we have studied this, what can be concluded \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Create \_\_\_\_\_\_.Tell me about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.Can you tell me more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? (Elaborate)* |
| **Integrating****Connecting and combining information****Summarizing:** combining information efficiently into a cohesive statement**Restructuring:**changing existing knowledge structures to incorporate new information**Useful Verbs:** *combine, summarize, design, imagine, generalizeExample Questions:How many ways can you think of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Summarize the story in your own words \_\_\_\_\_.Make a plan to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.What if \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?How would you change \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Can you make/ produce \_\_\_\_\_\_?Tell/ Show how \_\_\_\_\_\_.What lesson was learned?How can it apply to new situations?* |
| **Evaluating****Assessing the reasonableness and quality of ideas****Establishing criteria:**setting standards for making judgments**Verifying:** confirming the accuracy of claims**Useful Verbs:***judge, evaluate, rate, verify, assess, define criteriaExample Questions:What would you do?Should \_\_\_\_\_ be permitted to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?Why or why not?Was it right or wrong for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?  Explain.How well did \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?What is the most important?  Why?What could have been different?Select/Choose the best \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.What helped you to decide \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?  Why?Based on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the text, tell why \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?  (Justify)Which would you choose/select \_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Tell why.Which picture best represents the data?Evaluate the effectiveness of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.What evidence is there that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?  (Verify)* |

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