DISCUSSION PROMPTS FOR GUIDED READING
Source: Chesterfield County Public Schools, Curriculum Framework

Suggestion: During the discussion portion of your guided reading lesson, use one or two of the following question stems to stimulate discussion. Students need to be familiar with the language they will encounter on standardized tests.

Essential Questions: Clarifying
- In paragraph 4, the word ____ means...
- Use context clues to figure out the meaning of...
- What was confusing as you were reading?
- I was confused, so I...
- What is the meaning of ____?
- Which word means nearly the same thing as ___?
- Which word in line 3 gives you a clue about what ___ means?

Essential Questions: Making Connections
- How are the characters in the story the same or different?
- What do the characters have in common?
- What does the story remind you of?
- What connection can you make between these two books?
- What schema do you have for this topic?
- How did your connections help deepen your understanding of ___?

Essential Questions: Visualizing
- What words did the author use to help you make a mental image?
- Select a phrase that the author includes to help the readers visualize something important in the passage.
- After reading the story, what did you visualize?
- How did your visualization help you understand the story?

Essential Questions: Questioning
- Which question is answered in paragraph 1?
- What question does paragraph 2 answer?
- Which sentence shows that...?
- What event happened first? Next? Last?
- How does one character help another character?
- What is the setting at the beginning of the story?
- Which question presents the main problem in the story?
- I wonder...
- Write a question that you had while reading.

Essential Questions: Predicting
- At the end of the story, what will the characters likely do?
- What do you think the story will be about?

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- Was your prediction confirmed or disconfirmed?

Essential Questions: Drawing Inferences
- Which of these would most likely cause…?
- Identify one cause and effect relationship from the story.
- How does the character feel at the end of the story?
- Why did the character do what he did in paragraph 3?
- Why did the author most likely include paragraph 4?
- Which is the best choice as a heading for paragraph 5?
- The author wrote this story/article to…
- What is the author's purpose for writing this story?
- The character is best described as …
- How does the reader know that…?
- What conclusions can a reader make from this story?
- This sentence tells the reader that…
- If the author included ____, it would belong in paragraph…
- This article would most likely be found in a book titled…

Essential Questions: Determining Importance
- What is the story mainly about?
- The article is mostly about…
- What information best supports the idea…?
- What lesson does the character learn at the end of the story?
- Which paragraph could have the heading…
- The big idea in this story is…
- The most important thing to remember is…
- What caused ____ to happen?

Essential Questions: Synthesizing/Summarizing
- The main events in this story are…
- How did your thinking change as you were reading?