



# Ask and Answer Questions

By: Janelle Cox  
M.S. in Education

Language Arts  
Grades 3-5



## Introduction

In this lesson students will work in a whole group and small groups to ask and answer questions to better understand a familiar text.

## Learning Objectives

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1](#): Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

## Materials Needed

- [The Little Red Hen](#)
- An additional familiar story

## Procedure

To begin the lesson, ask students what types of questions they ask in their everyday lives. As they answer, write down their suggestions on the front board. Next, discuss that most questions start with: who, what, when, where, why and how. Tell students that today they will be asking and answering questions about a text.

### Activity 1: The 5 Ws and an H

1. To begin, remind students that the most questions begin with the 5 Ws and an H. Then, share with the students what each question means and give them an example.
  - Who – refers to people. Who are you?
  - What – refers to information. What are you doing?
  - When – refers to the time. When are you coming?
  - Where – refers to the location. Where are you going?
  - Why – refers to a reason. Why are you doing that?
  - How – refers to the way something is done. How did you do that?
2. Tell students that asking and answering questions can help us better understand a story. Tell students that you're going to show them how to ask and answer questions using the 5 Ws and an H.

Continued on page 2



# Ask and Answer Questions

By: Janelle Cox  
M.S. in Education

Language Arts  
Grades 3-5



Continued from page 1

3. Next, read part of a familiar story to students stopping along the way to ask and answer questions.
4. Continue reading the story, but this time tell students that when you stop it's going to be their turn to ask and answer questions about the story.
5. Tell students that every time they read you want them to think about any questions they may have.

## Activity 2: Reading a Passage

1. Tell students they are going to read The Little Red Hen and as they are reading it, you want them to think about any questions they may have.
2. Next, pair students up to read the passage together.
3. Once students are done reading the story, instruct them to use the 5 Ws and an H come up with questions about the passage.
4. Next, have students answer the questions that they came up with on a separate sheet of paper. Once they have answered the questions, have them switch papers with another group and answer that group's questions.

## Activity 3: Independent practice

1. Tell students to take out their silent reading books and read for five minutes. As they read, ask them to think about any questions they may have.
2. When the time is up, ask students to take out their pencils and write down a question for each 5 Ws and an H. They can refer to the chart you put up earlier to help them think of questions.
3. Then, one-by-one call each student up to have them read you their questions.
4. For an added comprehension check, you can also ask students to answer the questions they came up with.

## Evaluation

Assess students understanding and knowledge through activity three. Students will be graded on whether they have written a question for each of the 5 Ws and an H.