First Grade
Reading Literature Question Stems

Key Ideas & Details

Standard	Question Stem
RL.1.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	• Who are the characters this book? What do we know about them? • When did (event) happen? Where is that in the book? • Why did (event) happen? How do you know? • What does (character) think about (event)? How do you know? • What was the big problem or event in this story? How did they solve the problem? • What do you think (character) will do differently next time?
RL.1.2 Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.	• What happened at the beginning of the story? • What happened in the middle of the story? • What happened at the end of the story? • If you tell a friend about this story, what will you say? • What can you learn from (character)? • Whas is the lesson you should learn from this story?
RL.1.3 Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.	• Where does (character) live in this story? • What is the setting for this story? How do you know? • Who is (character name)? What happened to him/her in the story? • How is (character 1) different from (character 2)? Where does the book show or say that? • How are (character 1) and (character 2) the same? Where does the book show or say that? • Where is this story happening? How do you know? • Who is talking in the story?

Craft & Structure

Standard	Question Stem
RL.1.4 Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.	• What does this word mean? How do you know? • What words in the story tell how (character) feels? • What word in the story tells what sound _____ makes? • What does (phrase) mean? • Can you think of another word to use instead of _____? • Are there any words that confuse you?
RL.1.5 Explain major differences between books that tell stories and books that give information, drawing on a wide reading of a range of text types.	• What kind of story is this? • What makes this story fiction/nonfiction? • Is this a real (nonfiction) story or a made-up (fiction) story? How do you know? • Is this story realistic or fantasy? How do you know? • What words or character actions help you know this is nonfiction?

RL.1.6 Identify who is telling the story at various points in a text.	• Who is telling this story? How do you know? • Who is speaking in this part? Who are they talking to? • Are the narrator and the author the same person? How do you know?

Integration of Ideas & Knowledge

Standard	Question Stem
RL.1.7 Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.	• What does this illustration show? • How do the pictures make you feel? • The story says (insert quote). Where do you see that happening in the illustrations? • Can you draw a picture to show what happened in the book? What detail does your picture show? • What illustration shows the setting? • What illustration shows the problem in the story? • What illustration shows the main character?
RL.1.8 Not applicable for literature	
RL.1.9 Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.	• How is (character from book 1) like (character from book 2)? • How would (character from a different story) have acted if they were in this story? • What does (character) do that a real person/animal cannot? • How is this character like you? How are they different? • Do you think (character from book 1) would be friends with (character from book 2)?

First Grade
Reading Information Question Stems

Key Ideas & Details

Standard	Question Stem

RI.1.1
Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
	• Be the teacher! What questions would a teacher ask about this book?
	• What evidence can you find to show _____?
	• Who / What / Where / When / Why questions such as:
	   o Who (action e.g. first landed on the moon)? Where does it tell you that in the book?
	   o Where (do clown fish live)? Where does it tell you that in the book?
	• How questions such as:
	   o How do you know whales are mammals?
	   o How is a lizard like an alligator?
	• What is a different title for this book?
	• What facts did you learn about (topic)?

RI.1.2 Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.	• What is the main idea of what you read? What details tell more about that idea? • What is the topic of this text? What facts did you learn about (topic)? • How are _____ alike? How are _____ different? • Why did the author write this? • What do you think the author wants the readers to know?
RI.1.3 Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.	• We read (text 1) and (text 2). How are they the same? How are they different? • What caused (event)? • What effect did (event) have? • How did the (person/animal) change? • How are (person 1) and (person 2) alike? How are they different?

Craft & Structure

Standard	Question Stem
RI.1.4 Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.	• How do the words and images show (vocabulary word)? • What does the word _____ mean? How did the other words help you figure out the meaning? • Are there any words that confuse you? • What categories would you put these in? What are examples of things that are _____?

RI.1.5 Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, tables of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text.	• Where is the table of contents? What does it show you? • How do the images/diagrams help you understand the words? • Why does the author put a heading on the sections? How does it help you? • If you leave out this sentence/section how does it change the text? • What does _____ mean? Can you use the glossary to find out? • What text features (charts, diagrams, illustrations, bold words) help you understand the words?
RI.1.6 Distinguish between information provided by pictures or other illustrations and information provided by the words in a text.	• Why did the author write this? • What extra information do you learn from the illustrations? • How is the information in the chart/diagram different from the text? • What do you learn from the images that you didn't learn in the writing?

Integration of Ideas & Knowledge

Standard	Question Stem
RI.1.7 Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.	• What does this illustration/photo show? • What idea is the picture trying to show? • The text says (insert quote). Where do you see that happening in the illustrations? • What does this diagram show? Can you explain how this works? • What information do we get from this photograph? • How does the picture/photo help you understand the words? • What picture/diagram is missing? What would you like the text to include?
RI.1.8 Identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.	• What is the author telling about? • Why does the author say (action) happens? • What is the reason for (action)? • How can _____ happen? Why did _____ happen? • Can you find the reason the author thinks _____? • Why does the author say _____?
RI.1.9 Identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).	• How is (book 1) like (book 2)? How are they different? • How is (picture/diagram) like (picture/diagram)? How are they different? • Why does the author say _____ is _____? • How are the (item e.g. animals, airplanes, citizens…) in both texts alike? How are they different?