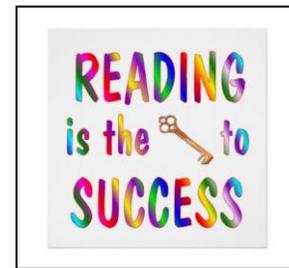


Amsterdam School  
Title 1 Newsletter  
February/March



## Reading Comprehension: Challenging Questions to Ask...

### Narrative (Fiction):

- \*How is this story like other stories you know?
- \*How is the setting (time & place) important to the story?
- \*What words did the author use to describe the place?
- \*How does the season or time affect the characters or plot of the story?
- \*Who is the most important character?
- \*How does the author tell us about the character?  
(Hint: Think about what the character does, says, thinks, and what others say about the character.)
- \*What is the author's message?
- \*What is the story mostly about?
- \*What 2-3 sentences summarize the whole story?
- \*What did the author have to know to write this book?

### Informational (Non-Fiction):

- \*What is this selection mainly about?
- \*Why is this topic important?
- \*How has the author made it easy for the reader to find information?
- \*Why did the author most likely write the text?
- \*What info. is provided through graphic features?  
(illustrations, maps, charts, diagrams, photographs, etc.)
- \*What info. is provided through text features? (**bold** print, *italics*, key words, captions, labels, etc.)
- \*What details are important to the main idea of the selection?

TIP: Always ask "How do you know?" and follow up with a discussion!

### Dates to Remember

February 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

NO SCHOOL

March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

NO SCHOOL

March 25<sup>th</sup>

End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

### Math Talk

New studies show that replacing a bedtime story with a math discussion even one night a week may markedly improve your child's math skills compared with peers who listen to nonmathematical stories.



### Fun Website to Visit

[www.coolmath4kids.com](http://www.coolmath4kids.com) For access to fun math activities, lessons, games and flash cards for ages 3-12.

## Parent Tip of the Month: Poetry!!

**Did you know that having your child read poetry could help them master foundational reading skills. Why poetry? Poems for children are relatively short in length and fun to read. Also, the rhythmical (predictable) and rhyming nature of most children's poems adds to their ease of learning and because most poems for children rhyme, they contain multiple instances of rimes (word families) that are a productive way to learn phonics.**

**Try it out!!!**