



What Can A Parent Do To Promote Thinking?

"Children grow into the intellectual life around them."

Lev Vygotsky

The skill of **Fact and Opinion** means: **Facts** can either be proved or disproved while **Opinions**, on the other hand, are beliefs or judgments.

Ideas and tips for parents for this skill:

When making most decisions it is important to distinguish fact from opinion. A rule of thumb can be whether something is debatable or not. Two words that help us determine an opinion are "think" and "believe."

"I think chocolate ice cream is the best."

"I believe dogs make the best pets."

Literature that support the application of this skill:

"The Story of Jackie Robinson: Bravest Man in Baseball" by Margaret Davidson

"Lost Star: The Story of Amelia Earhart" by Patricia Lauber

"Rosa Parks: My Story" by Jim Haskins and Rosa Parks

Most nonfiction books can easily be used for this skill.

Questions that a parent can ask his/her child to reinforce this skill:

- "What makes you think that?"
- "How do you know?"
- "Where in the text does it say that?"
- "Is that a fact or an opinion?"