



What Can A Parent Do To Promote Thinking?

"Children grow into the intellectual life around them."

Lev Vygotsky

The skill of **Finding Evidence**: means: Finding proof to support a given statement. Evidence is information found in the text, research or experience that supports opinions or claims a student makes when reading and writing.

Ideas and tips for parents for the skill of finding evidence:

The skill of finding evidence is a life skill that is required across all disciplines. In reading, students are expected to use evidence to demonstrate their comprehension of texts and to read closely in order to make evidence-based claims. In writing, students are expected to cite evidence to justify statements rather than rely on opinions or personal feelings. Making evidence-based claims about texts is a foundational literacy and critical thinking skill. In the new Common Core State Standard Assessments, most of the questions students are asked require them to provide evidence to support their answers.

When you are reading to your child:

- Model using evidence from the text to support your opinions of the story.
- Discuss stories with your child, asking your child to cite specific evidence from the text.
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Books that support the application of this skill:

Any book can be used for finding evidence. Give your child a statement about the character, setting or plot and ask him/her to read the book to find the evidence to support that statement.

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

When you ask your child a questions or opinions about the story say:

- "Where does it say that in the story?"
- "Put your finger on that part in the story."
- "Where in the text did you see that?"
- "Where did the author say that?"
- "Why do you think the author believes that, show me the words."

When children are using strategies say:

- "When you made that inference, what part of the story gave you the clues?"
- "When you were visualizing, what words helped you make that picture?"
- "When you made that connection, what part of the story helped you make that connection?"