

7-9 YEAR OLDS COMPREHENSION

Here are some notes on the comprehension skills we practised in today's lesson. You will also find an extension activity which you can complete in your own time.

SKIMMING & SCANNING

Skimming and scanning are both important reading skills which involve rapidly reading over a text, rather than reading every word.

- **Skimming is reading quickly to get a general overview of the material.**
e.g. Checking news headlines to see what's been happening.
e.g. Flicking through a book to see if you want to read it.
- **Scanning is reading quickly in order to find specific facts or pieces of information.**
e.g. Finding a specific TV show you want to watch in the guide.
e.g. Picking out a specific website to visit from an internet search.

COMPREHENSION

There are lots of different types of comprehension question. One of the key distinctions it is useful to make it to work out if you're being asked a **LITERAL** or **INFERENTIAL** question.

- **For literal questions, the information you need to find is stated directly in the text.**
e.g. "How many times have astronauts landed on the moon?"
- **For inferential questions, the information you need to find isn't stated directly in the text. We need to infer or deduce the answer.**
e.g. "What was it like being an astronaut in the 1960s?"

It's much more likely that you can use your scanning skills to find the answer to literal comprehension questions. This will allow you to answer the questions efficiently and correctly.

TAKEAWAY CHALLENGE

Write Your Own Questions

Choose a text that you have at home. It could be your favourite book, a newspaper, a magazine or even an internet article! Write 4 comprehension questions for somebody at home to have a go at answering.

- 2 x literal questions which can be answered using scanning.
- 2 x inferential questions which require full reading of the text.

Parents - We would love it if you could share your child's work with us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram using #exploreathome