Talk for Reading Techniques for helping children interpret text

A. Presenting a story in sections: line by line/ chunk by chunk

This helps children learn to:
- Predict:
- Infer from text
- Interpret text
- Being tentative
- Tie the clues together
- Recognise pattern in structure: cause and effect
- Listen with recall – strengthening working memory
- Empathise – step into shoes of characters
- Develop imagining skills – ability to picture in head
- Understand a greater range of vocabulary
- Apply "Knowledge of the world"
- To reread to build understanding
- Improve short-term memory
- Associate story and reading with enjoyment
- Recognise how a writer manipulates the reader

Related teaching points:
- Read text thoroughly beforehand so can prepare
- Pre-teach key new vocab / context
- Decide where to pause and what open questions to ask to open up discussion
- Look out for good drama opportunities
- Look out for good discussion ops
- Help children understand cause and effect
- Model language – my turn/ your turn
- Consider how promotes love of reading
- Select questions/ statements that:
    - encourage new suggestions / build on what others say
- quote evidence to back up points

Useful statements/questions to open up line-byline discussion:
- What can you tell me now?
- What does that suggest?
- What is most likely?
- What has the author done now? What is the author trying to make you think now?
- I'll give you another line. Does that change things?
- Have a quick chat about …
- Is there another possibility?
- How do you think that was said?

Remember
- let the children answer and insert questions that encourage extended answers.
- Don't answer the question or close down thinking.