**CREATING OPEN QUESTIONS**

**Creating Open Questions in Math**

*Turn a Question Around*

* The answer is 18—what is the question?
* I counted something in our room. There were exactly 4. What might I have counted?

*Ask for Similarities and Differences*

* How are the numbers 22 and 33 alike? How are they different?
* Half the people in a family are males. What might a drawing of the family look like?

*Replace a Number with a Blank*

* There are 25 students in the class. 11 were boys and the rest were girls. How many girls were in the class?
* There are 25 students in our class. Some of them are boys and some are girls. How many boys and girls are there?

*Ask for a Number Sentence*

* Students create a number sentence that includes certain words and numbers.
  + Use 3 and 4 along with the words “and” and “more.”
* Students use a number sentence to show what happened in a math story.

*Change the Question*

* Instead of, “What number has 3 hundreds, 2 tens, and 6 ones?”
* Ask, “You have 11 base ten blocks. What numbers can you create?”

*Use Parallel Tasks*

* An object has a length of 5 paper clips. What might it be?
* An object has a length greater than 5 paper clips. What might it be?

*Variations on an Open Question*

* A two digit number has more tens than ones. What could the number be? How do you know the number is correct?
* Color only the numbers on the hundreds chart that show more tens than ones.

**Examples of Open Questions for Language Arts:**

* What character(s) in this book would get along well with the character(s) in another book?
* Compare and contrast two characters.
* Who does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ remind you of? Why?
* Who are the minor characters? Why are they important to the story?
* Do you think a character behaves responsibly? Why? Why Not?
* Why did \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ choose \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* What are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (characters’) strengths?
* What are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (characters’) weaknesses?
* What do you think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Why?
* What would you recommend to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Why?
* Would you have done something differently than \_\_\_\_\_? Why? Why Not?
* What happened because of what \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ did?
* What problems did \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have?
* Does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (character) change from the beginning of the book to the end? How?

*What, Where, Why, When, and How Open Questions*

* What do you think will happen next?
* What is the author trying to tell you in this book?
* What things in the book are similar to your own?
* What would have changed if \_\_\_ was different?
* If you could change the title, what would it be? Why?
* Where were you confused?
* Where did you learn something new?
* Compare and contrast the setting to where you live.
* Why do you think…?
* Why did \_\_\_\_ do \_\_\_\_\_?
* Why is the book titled \_\_\_\_\_?
* Why do you think the author wrote this book?
* When did you get an “ah ha” moment? Why?
* When did you have strong feelings as you were reading? Why?
* When did the story take place? How do you know?
* How would you have changed the ending? Why?
* How is the setting of this book like the setting of another book?
* How is a character in this book like the charter in another book?
* How does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (character name) overcome the problem?

*Einstein’s Thinking:*

“The important thing is not to stop questioning!” Albert Einstein