QUESTIONS ARE THINKING PROMPTS
ANSWER WITH TEXT-BASED EVIDENCE
Aligned with the Priority Literacy Skills
The following question stems can be used to assess students’ skills. To use them to guide reading demonstrate how to answer them (think out loud) and discuss the answers with students. To use them to assess students, use these stems to construct questions about an unfamiliar text. You can make multiple choice questions, but open-ended questions will give students opportunities to communicate what they think—and to tell you what they know and can do and need help doing better.

Identify/infer Stated and Implied Character Traits
Which of these is true of ______?
Which of these words describes ______?
Which trait does ____ show when he ________?

Analyze and Infer Motive
Who would most likely agree with the statement below?
Why does x feel _____?
Why does ____ say ______?

Analyze Relationships
What word best describes the relationship between ______ and ______?
How does _____ feel about __________?

Locate and Classify Information
According to the passage, what is true about ______?
Which of these facts is true?

Infer Word Meaning from Context
In the passage, what does ______ mean?
Which of these is the best definition of the word _____ as used in paragraph x?

Identify/Classify Sequence
Which event happened last?
Which event occurred before ________?

Identify/Analyze/Infer Causes and Effects
What caused ________?
Which of these occurs because ________?
At the end of the passage, why is _________?

Infer Predictions
After reading the title, what should you expect to learn from this selection?
What will ______ most likely do next?
Question Stems to use in assessments and guided comprehension

**Identify/Analyze/Evaluate Problem and Solution**
What problem did ______ have?
How did _____ solve a problem?
Which solution was best for everyone?

**Compare/Contrast**
_______ may best be compared to ____________.
How is ____ different from ____?
Which of these is most like______
X and y were alike because they both ____.

**Classify Fact and Opinion**
What statement from the passage is an opinion?
Which of these statements is a fact?

**Summarize**
Paragraph x of this selection is mainly about_____.
This story is mainly about a ______.
Which is the best summary of this passage?

**Infer the Main Idea**
Which of these statements is the main idea of the passage?
What is another good title for this passage?
Which detail supports the idea of ________?

**Identify/analyze tone, mood, voice, plot, and setting**
Why did the author most likely include the sentence below?
What is the tone of the passage?
Which words tell about the setting?
What is the theme of this passage?
Why does the author refer to _____ as __________?

**Analyze author's techniques, including figurative language**
What does the author mean by saying ________?
Why does the author use the words ______?
Which of these techniques did the author use?

**Analyze/Infer author's point of view and purpose**
What is the author's purpose for writing the passage?
In this poem, which point of view does the poet use?