

Encyclopaedias and reference books are filled with lots of facts about many different topics. The contents, index and glossary pages will help you find specific information more easily. In this session, you will find out information using an encyclopaedia or reference book from the library.

Encyclopaedia Discovery



Choose an encyclopaedia or reference book from the library and answer the following questions as a group.

1. What is the encyclopaedia called?

2. What do you think the encyclopaedia is about?

3. Look at the contents page.

- How many chapters or topics are in the encyclopaedia?
- What will you find on page 12?

4. Look through the encyclopaedia.

- How many pages does the encyclopaedia have?
- What is on page 24?

- Open the encyclopaedia to a random page. How many pictures are on the page?

- Choose another page. Find a fact that you think is interesting.

5. Look at the glossary.

- What is the third entry?
- What is the last entry?
- Did you learn any new words? Make a list of them as a group.

6. Look at the index.

- Find the fifth entry in the index. What is it and on what page will you find it?

7. As a group, take turns to tell everyone an interesting fact that you have found by exploring the encyclopaedia.

This activity can be done independently, in pairs or as a whole group.



You can miss out a section if your encyclopaedia does not have any of these features.



If you have time, the group could draw their favourite picture in the encyclopaedia.

