Reading Workshop Conference Questions

**Summarizing:**

* What was the problem in the story?
* How did the characters solve the problem?
* How did the story end?
* Summarize the important events.
* Describe the characters in the story and explain how their actions contributed to the sequence of events.
* Summarize a chapter.
* What were the events that led to the ending?

**Beyond the Text:**

* Predicting
  + Based on what you know about a character, predict what he or she will do.
  + Based on what you know, what might happen next?
  + Based on what you know about the genre, what might happen next?
* Making Connections
  + Can you think of another book that is similar to this one?
  + What connections can you make? (personal, text, world) Explain how they’re connected.
  + What connections can you make between social or moral issues of today and those presented in the text?
* Synthesizing
  + What new information did you learn in addition to what you already knew about the topic?
  + After reading, how has the new information changed your thinking about the topic?
  + What lesson did the character learn in the story?
* Inferring
  + Look at the dialogue in the text. What does the dialogue tell about the characters?
  + How did the character change? Why?
  + What caused the problem or outcome?
  + What is the big idea/theme of the text? How does this apply to our lives today?
  + What were the major events that led to the problem or to the solution?
  + How do the actions of one character affect others?
  + Based on the character’s actions or motives, describe the traits of the character.
  + How are the characters with problems dealing with mature issues? What are their feelings? How are they dealing?

**Thinking About the Text:**

* Analyzing
  + What did the author do to make the characters, situation, or topic interesting?
  + What is the genreof the book? What are the aspects of this genre that you noticed?
  + Could this story really happen? Why or why not?
  + What descriptive language did the author use? How did it add to your enjoyment or understanding of the text?
  + Look at the way the author ended the book. Do you think this was a good way to end? Why or why not?
  + What role does the setting play?
  + What aspects of writer’s craft did you notice after reading several texts by the author?
  + What did the writer want you to learn from this book?
* Critiquing
  + What did you like/dislike about this book?
  + Evaluate the author’s character and plot development
  + What is the author’s point of view? Does the author show bias? Cite evidence for both.
  + Critique the content of the story. Do you think the writer should have included any other information?