

## *Ask Questions to Develop Your Child's Thinking Skills*

Parents can help their children develop their thinking skills by asking questions. Here are six thinking skills and some questions you might ask:

1. **Knowledge.** Kids need to remember what they have learned. Use words like what, when, where, how many, and tell. "What's the capital of Peru?"
2. **Comprehension.** This skill involves understanding the overall concept. "How does a caterpillar become a butterfly?"
3. **Application.** Your child needs to apply what she already knows. Words like show, apply, solve, or demonstrate can help your child. "Demonstrate how to calculate the area of a room."
4. **Analysis.** This skill involves breaking down information into smaller parts. Use words like compare, contrast, classify and arrange. "Compare a cat and a cow. How are they alike?"
5. **Synthesis.** This involves combining knowledge from several areas into a new pattern. Use phrases like invent, what if or combine. "What if dinosaurs were alive today?"
6. **Evaluation.** Sometimes there is no right or wrong answer. Words like decide, explain or compare can help children evaluate. "Explain why you think Abraham Lincoln was our best president."