

# Check for Understanding

Sometimes readers get lost while reading, and may not know what happened in the story. It is important to stop reading to check for understanding.



Ask yourself the 2 W's:

- *Who* is the story about so far?
- *What* has happened in the story?

If you do not understand what has happened, it is important to back up and re-read. As you are re-reading, read slowly, and stop to check for understanding.

Use the chart on the next page to help you decide if you should back up and re-read. After reading a page or paragraph, stop and decide if you understand what you just read (thumbs up), if some parts were confusing (thumbs sideways), or you don't understand what you just read (thumbs down).



**Thumbs up:** You understand what you just read. Keep reading!



**Thumbs sideways:** You understood most of what you just read. Go back and re-read the parts that were confusing.



**Thumbs down:** You don't really understand what you just read. Go back and re-read.