Resource Sheet for IDR Conferences

General questions you can ask to probe student thinking:

» Why did you choose this book?
» Why do you like/dislike this book?
» What kinds of books do you want to read?

Genre-specific questions you can ask:

Fiction

» What is this story about?
» What has happened so far?
» What do you know about the character(s)?
» What part have you found interesting or surprising? Why?
» What are you wondering about?
» What do you visualize (see/hear/feel) as you read these words?
» What do you think will happen next?

Nonfiction/Expository

» What is this [book/article] about?
» (Read the information on the back cover.) What have you found out about that so far?
» (Look at the table of contents.) What do you think you will find out about _________ in this book?
» What have you learned from reading this article?
» What’s something interesting you’ve read so far?
» What are you wondering about?
» What do you expect to learn about as you continue to read?
» What information does this [diagram/table/graph/other text feature] give you?

Poetry

» What is this poem about?
» What do you visualize (see/hear/feel) as you read these words?
» What do you think the poet means by _________?