Do / Does / Am / Is / Are?

When we make questions in the present simple, we use ‘do / does’ for almost every verb.

- Do you like chocolate? (The main verb is ‘like’.)
- Does she live in Madrid? (The main verb is ‘live’.)
- Do you want to come to the party? (The main verb is ‘want’.)

However, the verb ‘be’ is different. When the main verb is ‘be’, we make a question by putting the verb at the front and putting the subject after the verb. We don’t use ‘do / does’.

- Are you hungry? (The main verb is ‘be’.)
- Is she at home? (The main verb is ‘be’.)
- Are they from Switzerland? (The main verb is ‘be’.)

If we want to make a ‘wh’ question, it’s the same – we just put the ‘wh’ word or phrase first.

- Why do you like chocolate?
- Where does she live in Madrid?
- Why are you hungry?
- How long is she at home?