

Reading Journal Activities

These are some suggested activities you could complete in your Reading Journal. You might complete some of these during reading lessons in class, based on your class novel, or use them as part of your reading homework. Make sure your Reading Journal is kept up to date and is in school every day.

Pick a character or two from the story and draw them.	Construct a timeline of events in the story. (Storyboard)	Design a new eye catching front cover for the book. Include the key features.	Write a blurb for the story.
Make a cartoon strip showing part of the story.	Compare two characters in the story. How are they similar? Different?	Make a fact file about one of the characters.	Write an alternative ending for the story.
Write about your favourite part of the story and explain why.	Which character did you like the most? Explain why.	Choose a page and write a list of all the adjectives.	Design a poster to advertise the book. Tell the buyers why they should buy the book.
Read a passage and list the words and phrases used to create an atmosphere.	Choose some interesting words. Use a thesaurus to find synonyms.	Write a letter to the author. What did you enjoy about their book? What would you like to ask them?	Draw a picture of where the story is set using the description to help you.
Choose a page and write down all the nouns/noun phrases..	Rewrite part of the book as a playscript.	Design a wanted poster for a character in the story. Remember to describe them well.	Choose a page and write down all the verbs on the page.
Draw a picture of your favourite part of the book and write about what is happening.	How does the story hook you in at the beginning? Make a list of words and phrases that you feel are effective in making you want to read on.	Write 5 questions you could ask a friend about the book.	Which character would you like to be? Why?
Record examples of figurative language, e.g. similes, metaphors, personification.	Write a book review to be displayed in the school library.	Think of 5 questions you would like to ask the author.	Record interesting words/sentences in your Magpie Book.
Choose a key moment in the book and change the event.	Think of 5 questions you would like to ask one of the characters. Swap with someone and answer in character.	Write about a memory or experience of your own that is similar to something you've read in the book.	Look up the meaning of any words you don't know. Write out the definition and give another example in a sentence.
Write about how a character might be feeling at different stages in the story. You could write it in the first person, or in a speech bubble.	Stop reading a story half way through. Draw or write your prediction for the rest of the story.	Which character in the book would you most like to be? Why?	Write some advice to a character in trouble.

Before the last few pages of the book write or draw your prediction. Once finished read on to check.	Which character in the book are you most like? Why?	Rewrite a paragraph from the point of view of a different character.	Finish this idea: "I love the way the author..." be complete and give examples to support your opinion.
How did the book make you feel? Explain	Who else should read this book? Why? Who shouldn't read this book? Why?	Write a letter to someone who would like the book telling them why they should read it.	Write a diary extract written by a character.
Draw a story / text map.	Compare the book to another one that you have read. How were they similar? Different?	Write a telephone conversation between you and a character from the book. (Remember the conventions of speech).	Pick 10 nouns/verbs/adjectives etc and then put them into alphabetical order.
Write a newspaper report about an event in your book, or reporting a issue raised in a non-fiction book.	What kind of person is the main character? Would you like to be friends with them? Why? Why not?	Pick a character. How does this character treat other people? Explain and use phrases from the text to support.	Pick a character in the story. How do they change throughout the story? Explain and use words/phrase from the text to support.
When was the book set? Explain and use words/phrases from the book to support.	Create a glossary of technical words that relate to the topic of your book.	Draw and label a diagram using factual information.	Make a list of facts you have learned from your non-fiction book.
Plan a one minute talk about a key point/character/fact from the book.	What are the features of this Non-fiction book?	Create a title page for your guided reading book. Include a picture, the title, author and illustrator.	Find a part of your story that doesn't already have a picture. Draw a new picture to show what happens.
Make a puppet for a character in your story.	Choose a character and write an acrostic poem about them. Read it to someone.	Write a sentence to summarise each chapter.	Find all the words you can with 'ed'/'ing' etc ending.
Find examples of specific grammar features you have been learning about in class, e.g. expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, relative clauses.	Choose a part of the story and mime it to a friend. Can they guess what part of the story it was?	Describe where and when the story took place. Explain why you would/wouldn't like to have a holiday there.	Find examples of words that include spelling patterns/sounds/rules you have investigated in class.

