

English/Language Arts

Independent Reading Activities



These are ‘suggested’ activities to highlight your independent reading choices in your reader’s notebook; you are welcome to find your own creative ways to create a page dedicated to your independent reading choices

Acrostic: write the term vertically and then turn each letter into sentences horizontally.

Advertisement: create a flyer, billboard, or pamphlet promoting something.

Balance: show how things are tethered to one another by using a balance beam or scale.

Caricature: turn the person into a cartoon and describe different portions of what they look like, how they dress, and things about them.

Cartoon: create a cartoon panel displaying what you learned that day.

Cause and Effect: every action has consequences; use this activity to show the consequences of the event/character you read about in your book

CD Cover: make a CD of songs that say a lot about the person/event; design a front cover and also include at least five (5) songs that explain the book.

Commemorative Stamp: some events and people have been honored by their respective postal offices. Create a commemorative stamp that highlights the book you read.

Cultural Reference: tie something from today’s society to the book.

Edible: Create a “food product” that represents what you read—be sure to explain your thoughts/ideas.

Eulogy: write a poem or speech dedicated to the book.

Fakebook Profile: give your main character life by creating a Fakebook page with contact information, activities, favorites, education, status posts, etc. that tell the story of the book.

Flow Chart: create a flow chart that depicts the story or events written about in your book.

Foldable: create a foldable to display the story you read.

Sports Game: depict opposing views/sides from your reading and create a game around the book.

Historical Markers: create a tribute to a person/place/event described in your book by designing a monument in its name.

Illustrated Definition: bring a term to life by adding some pictures to the definition.

Journal: create a journal entry that a significant character might have written that explains details about the plot or conflict in the book.

License Plate: Create a license plate that shows the important points of the book including conflict/character/plot. There must be a background and between 2-7 characters that describe the conflict/character/plot.

Menu: create a menu with items that depict the conflict/character/plot and have meaning for each item.

Metaphor: take a theme or idea from the book and create a metaphor that gives significant meaning to the story.

Mind Notes: imagine you are a character from your book and express it or his/her thoughts in a creative manner.

Mnemonic: create a mnemonic about your book.

Montage: use a group of pictures to give meaning to the book—its characters/plot/setting/theme/etc.

Newspaper: write a cover story about the book you read.

Numerical Representation: numbers don't lie, especially when it comes to facts; show how they reflect what was read.

Pictoword: give a term more depth by adding to the letters.

Poetry: Turn what you read into a poem.

Point of View: write a summary of your book from the point of view of the protagonist

Play on Words: using a familiar proverbial phrase such as "don't bite the hand that feeds you" to describe the theme of the book you read—illustrate the book (characters, plot, conflict, theme, etc.) using the proverbial phrase as your central artistic theme.

Post Card: create a postcard that the main character might have sent another character.

Puzzle: Create a puzzle to show how ideas or themes fit into place.

Report Card: create a report card for a character grading him/her on things they have accomplished or have failed to accomplish in the book.

Rotten Tomato Review: Create a Rotten Tomato Review for the book.

Shopping List/To-Do-List: Create a shopping list/to-do list for a main character to help them with their conflict. What might it/they need to buy or do to solve their essential problem?

Timeline (illustrated): Create a chronological timeline with annotations and illustrations.

Topical Net: connect characters, conflicts, themes, etc. to one another to show relationships or connections.

Twitter Post: assume the role of a character and make a fake tweet; remember, just stay under 140 characters! Artwork is important-make it look like a real tweet!

Venn Diagram: Create a Venn Diagram to compare the book to other books or the movie based on the book.

Visualization Representation: use pictures to describe a character, plot, theme, conflict, etc.

Wanted Poster: showcase knowledge of a character, theme, conflict in a brief, efficient poster stating facts.

Weekly Calendar: create a mock calendar for the main character. Be sure to include specific plot points, themes, conflicts, etc.

Word Splash: label a word and then place plenty of describers around it. (Think of Wordles)

WOW ME!: Impress me by letting your creative juices flow! You choice!