

Name _____

Class _____

Book Response Journal- Ms. DeStasio Cluster Language Arts

You are expected to be reading for a minimum of 30 minutes each night. Instead of a traditional reading log you will be keeping a Book Response Journal. In this journal you will write a personal response to what you are reading. State your feelings, thoughts, reactions, and questions about situations, ideas, actions, characters, settings, symbols, plots, themes, and any other elements in the story. You can't be wrong in your responses, so take risks and be honest. You can write about what you like and dislike and what seems confusing or unusual to you. You can also make predictions about what might happen later and relate your personal experiences to the plot, characters, or setting.

Here are the Details!

- These Book Journals will be collected EVERY WEDNESDAY and returned by Friday. On certain weeks I will write you back. It is my intention for us to be able to have a written conversation about what you are reading at home.
- You must have the book journal signed by an adult who watched you read.
- You must write a minimum of one page per week.
- Your pages must be labeled with the title of what you are reading and also the page numbers you have read for that week. See example below:

To Kill a Mockingbird

September 19, 2010

Pages 25-125

Adult Signature

This assignment replaces the traditional reading log. It is an expectation that you read *for THIRTY minutes every night.*

Name _____

Class _____

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Here are the Details!

- These Book Journals will be collected EVERY WEDNESDAY and returned by Friday. On certain weeks I will write you back. It is my intention for us to be able to have a written conversation about what you are reading at home.
- You must have the book journal signed by an adult who watched you read.
- You must write a minimum of 5 sentences a week.
- Your pages must be labeled with the title of what you are reading and also the page numbers you have read for that week. See example below:

To Kill a Mockingbird

September 18, 2010

Pages 25-125

Adult Signature

This assignment replaces the traditional reading log. It is an expectation that you read *for THIRTY minutes every night.*

Below is a list of sentence starters and ideas to help you write your journal entries. These are simply suggestions for you to use. You may certainly use other ideas of your own. Tape this page into your Book Journal.

Sample Sentence Starters (If you are stuck)

I wonder what this means...

I really don't understand this part...

I really like/dislike this idea because...

This character reminds me of somebody I know because...

This character reminds me of me because...

This character is like (name of the character) in (title of book) because...

I think this setting is important because...

This scene reminds me of a similar scene in (title of book) because...

I like/dislike this writing because...

This part is very realistic/unrealistic because...

I think the relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting because...

I like/dislike (name of character) because...

This situation reminds me of a similar situation in my own life. It happened when...

The character I most admire is _____ because...

If I were (name of character) at this point, I would...

I began to think...

I love the way...

I can't believe...

I wonder why...

I noticed...

I think...

I observed...

I wonder...

If I were...

I'm not sure...

I felt sad when...

I like the way the author...

I wish that...

This made me think of...

I was surprised...

It seems like...

I'm not sure...

This story teaches...

I began to think of...

Questions to Ask Yourself

What did I like or dislike and why?

What do I wish had happened?

What do I wish the author had included?

What do I think about the characters?

What is my opinion of the illustrations, table and figures?

What did I feel as I read?

What did I notice as I read?

What lessons did I learn from this?

If you can't figure out what to read check out these websites for some great suggestions!

Teenreads.com

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/06ttt.htm>

Alex Awards

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/alex

Ten books published for adults that have potential appeal for teens.

Best Books for Young Adults

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/bbya

The titles are selected from the year's publications and include significant adult and young adult books, fiction and nonfiction.

Outstanding Books for the College Bound

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/obcb

List provides reading guidance for college bound students and others looking for opportunities for independent and lifelong learning.

Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/poppaper

To encourage teens to read for pleasure, one to five lists of paperbacks on popular or topical subjects are selected each year.

Printz Award

www.ala.org/yalsa/printz

First given in January 2000, the award honors the young adult book that best exemplifies literary excellence.

Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/quickpicks

This list is for young adults who, for whatever reason, do not like to read.