

11 Independent Reading Responses that Can Be Done with Any Book

No Technology Required



Character Analysis – Choose a character from the story and draw a picture of the character in the center of the paper. Around the character write or draw about the character’s personality traits, actions, special words, thoughts and feelings, problems and challenges, and accomplishments.

Create a Comic Strip – Choose a scene in the book and create a four-panel comic strip about that scene. Include colorful pictures with dialogue balloons for what each character is saying.

Make a Connections Map – Choose parts of the book that can be compared to the real world, another book, or yourself. Write down or draw these connections.

Make a New Book Cover – Create a new cover for the book with your own artwork and a blurb (short summary).

Make a Diorama – Using a shoebox or another box, recreate a scene from the book using things from around the house such as scrap paper and small toys.

Create a Story Map – Draw 6 boxes on a sheet of paper. Put one of the following in each box: Title and author, characters, action, setting, problem and solution. Write about the parts of the books in each box.

Write a Letter – Write a letter to your teacher or best friend telling him/her if you liked/disliked this book and why.

Create a Play – Either write or act out what this story would look like as a live action play.

Compare and Contrast – Create two circles that intertwine and make a list of how two books are different in the outer circle and how they are the same in the overlapping circle. Your child may know this as a Venn Diagram.

What’s Next – Write about what you think would happen next if the story continued.

Story Chart – Divide a sheet of paper into three parts. Choose an important even from the beginning, middle and end. Write or draw about that part.

