

Summer Reading Activities



	Fourth Grade – Activity #2
Title	Reading Response Journal
Parent Information	A reading response journal is a place for students to sketch, write, share ideas or opinions, and/or respond to questions about a text. Children can write in the journal before, during, or after reading. Encourage your child to use their reading response journal as a part of their daily reading routine. A reading response journal helps children think critically about what they are reading. Asking text-dependent questions also helps them learn to use evidence from the text in their response. Text-dependent questions often focus on key details, specific vocabulary, text structure, author's purpose, making inferences, and/or forming opinions.
Objective	Reflect and write about reading
Time	10 - 15 minutes daily
Materials	pencil, paper, or journal (composition or spiral)
Procedures	• Have your child record the title and author of the text they are reading. • Have your child record the date and pages read for the day (ex. 7/2/2021: pgs. 15-30). • During your child's reading routine have them use their journal to ask questions, take notes, or respond to a prompt or question you provide based on the text. • Students can also respond to their own questions that they generate before reading. • Discuss your child's responses and writing with them to extend their thinking.
Additional Resources and Information	Sample prompts/questions for fiction: • How is this book (character, setting, etc.) like other books you have read? • What is the genre of the text, and how can you tell? • What lesson is this story/fable teaching you? What details support the lesson? • How did the characters solve the problem in the story? • What was the author's purpose for writing this text? • Pick a character and name a few character traits (brave, outgoing, etc.). How do they relate to the character's actions in the story? • Do you agree or disagree with how the character(s) solved the problem? • How would you solve the problem differently? • What part of the book surprised you? • What part of this book was hard to understand and why? • What do you think is going to happen next?

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	• What vocabulary or descriptive language helped you visualize the story? • Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not? Sample prompts/questions for non-fiction • What is the genre of the text, and how can you tell? • What text features do you notice? How are they helping you understand the information? • What is the main idea of the selection? What details support the main idea? • What else would you like to learn about this topic? • What part of this book was hard to understand and why? • What vocabulary words are you familiar with in the text? What vocabulary words should we look up or find in the glossary? • Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not? Visit ReadWorks.org ReadWorks includes a variety of fiction and non-fiction grade level passages that often include text-dependent questions.