

Reader's Response Notebook Entries:

- ✓ Remember to write your entry to me as a letter addressed to me.
- ✓ Be sure to choose an appropriate prompt and complete all parts of it.
 - ✓ Include the date.
- ✓ I do NOT want summaries!! I am looking for your *thoughts* and your *responses* to what you read!

Anytime:

- Identify an important (good or bad) character in this book who is not the main character and describe him/her/it. Describe his/her/its connection to the main character. Explain what makes this character's role important to the storyline of this book.
- Name one character in your book and describe two or more character traits that you think describe the character. Support your opinion with evidence from the text.
- Write a paragraph describing what you would have done if you had been alive and part of this historical event/story. Be sure to connect your ideas to the events of the story.
- Find a small passage that you want to illuminate. It can be funny, sad, exciting, a good description, an interesting part, etc. Copy a brief portion of your selection. Explain what you liked about it and why.
- Create a prediction about what you think will happen in your story. Read more. Did you have to abandon, enhance, or adjust and why?
- Copy 3-5 sentences from your book that contain figurative language, such as metaphors, similes, idioms, etc. Underline the portion of each sentence that is figurative. Explain what you think each phrase means; look for context clues to help you.
- While you were reading, you probably wondered about a few things: describe what happened in the story that made you ask yourself questions. Write out the question(s) you asked yourself. Explain any answers you may have found to those questions, either in later readings or context clues that helped you infer an answer.
- Describe the kind(s) of research an author would have to do to write about this topic and why. For example: onsite, historical records, scientific experiments, interviews, etc. you may choose and explain more than one.
- Explain how the information in this text might have been different if it had been written 10, 20, or 50 years ago.
- Describe the main setting of this story. Setting details change often in a story. Sometimes there are significant changes, and sometimes there are only minor ones. Give two to three examples from your book of setting changes that have occurred in the story. How do these affect the plot?

Before Reading:

- Briefly describe the cover of your book and look at the title, the back cover, and the first page of the first chapter. List at least three things you think you will learn by reading this book.
- Survey the chapter by reading the title, looking at the picture and reading their captions, reading subtitles, vocabulary words, and any other bold or italicized print. Write at least 3 questions you think will be answered as you read the chapter.
- Because we pick out books for a variety of reasons including recommendations, covers, genres, intriguing summaries, and illustrations, please explain why you chose to read this book. Identify what parts of the book you look at before deciding to read this.
- Tell me everything you already know about this topic. Did this knowledge lead to your decision to read this particular book? Why or why not?

While Reading:

- Describe an important *event* that happened in your reading today and explain why it was important to the character(s) in the story. Five evidence from the story as to how it changed – or will change – their lives.
- Explain about a life lesson people should learn from this story and support your answer with several pieces of evidence from the book. Explain why it is an important lesson to you and how it will help you.
- If you could make this book into a movie, what scene would use to open the movie? Would you start the movie on page one? Describe the scene in details and explain why you think this scene would grab the audience's attention and interest.

While Reading:

- Identify a person, idea, or event that they author wrote into the story that surprised you. Explain why you were surprised by it and what you would have expected instead.
- Identify one special technique the author uses in his/her writing style (figurative language, visual images, humor, flashing back in time, etc.). Give several examples from the story. Explain whether or not you think the technique made the story better and why.
- Describe the best part of this story so far. Close the book and write a paragraph about it in your own words. Tell why you liked it and how it made you feel.
- Describe one of the main characters using at least three or four details about him/her. Would you want to be friends with this character? Why or why not?

After Reading:

- Describe one significant event or problem/challenge the main character(s) faced. Explain how the situation was resolved. Support your answer with several pieces of evidence from the book.
- Write a brief paragraph explaining how your story ended. Pretend that you are the author and have decided to change the ending. Rewrite it.
- Think about your story from beginning to end, and then think about the title. Express whether you think the title does or does not fit the story, and defend your opinion using evidence from the text.
- Assume your friend knows nothing about the topic of the book. Write a letter to him/her sharing the information that you found to be the most interesting or most important. Make it easy to understand with extraordinary word choice.
- Explain why you think the author did or did not do a good job writing this story. Give examples from the book to prove your point of view. Tell if you would or would not like to read any other books by this author and why.