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**Expectations for the Reading Response Journal**

* Reading response journals are a place where you respond to literature by recording your thoughts, feelings, reactions, and questions about the book you are reading
* You should record/reflect your feelings in the RRJ (Reading Response Journal) each time you stop reading. Put the date, the page you started reading and the page you ended reading and write approximately 5-10 sentences.
* Hand in the RRJ after you have finished the book. Submit via Moodle.

**Examples:**

**#1:** I finished reading the book called The Dark Secret of Wetherend. What happened was that the storms keep on getting worse and worse. Finally Miss Wells and Anthony go to a place called St. Scholastica's College in Wisconsin. When they get there they find the coffin of J. K. Borkman. Miss Wells and Anthony find a tube of blood. It is called the blood of Hails, it contains some of Jesus' blood. Eventually they kill Anders Borkman. I am reading a new book called The Underground Room by John Bellairs. I really like his series.

**#2:** I finished a fantasy book recommended to me called Strandia. It was about a girl named Sand who lives on a mythical island. Sand and her people have the special talent of being able to communicate with dolphins. Throughout the course of the book Sand learns a lot about people and finds out that her own group of people aren't quite as great as they thought they were.

But that's not what I really wanted to talk about. Although I enjoyed this book, the ending wasn't what I wanted it to be. Sand had two guys in love with her that wanted to marry her, and she turned them both down, saying she never wanted to get married. This made me really mad, which I guess is good because books are supposed to make you think. I guess the author ended it the way she did so there could either be a sequel, or maybe so you could just made up the ending you wanted. That's what I did. I decided that Sand's dolphin friend would convince her that she had decided hastily, and should reconsider. Then she and Berran would get married and live happily ever after.

Remember a reading response journal is **NOT** a summary of the book. It is your thoughts and reflections on what you are reading and how you relate to the characters, the history, the setting, and anything else connected to the story.

**Don’t forget:** Each time you stop reading you should reflect in your reading response word document. Put the date, the page you started reading on and the page you ended on at the top of the paper. Your reflections can vary in length, but you should have at least a paragraph for each entry (5-10 sentences). Once you have finished reading the book and reflecting in your journal, submit your work by uploading your word document on Moodle,

**You will not receive credit if you do not submit the reading response journal.**

**Reading Response Journal Prompts (these are ideas to get you started-you do not have to use them):**

* What were your feelings after reading the opening chapter of this
* book?
* 􀀉 Did this book make you laugh? Cry? Cringe? Smile? Cheer? Explain.
* 􀀉 What connections are there between the book and your life? Explain.
* 􀀉 What is the most important word in the book? The most important
* passage? The most important event or feeling? Explain.
* 􀀉 Who shouldn’t or shouldn’t read this book? Why?
* 􀀉 What are the best parts of the book? Why? What are the worst
* parts? Why?
* 􀀉 Do you like the ending of the book? Why or why not? Do you think
* there is more to tell? What do you think might happen next?
* 􀀉 What came as a surprise in the book? Why?
* 􀀉 What parts of the book seem most believable or unbelievable? Why?
* 􀀉 What makes you wonder in this book? What confuses you?
* 􀀉 In what ways are you like any of the characters? Explain.
* 􀀉 Do any of the characters remind you of friends, family members, or
* classmates? Explain.
* 􀀉 Which character would you like to be in this book? Why?
* 􀀉 What would you and your favorite character talk about in your
* conversation? Begin the conversation.
* 􀀉 Do you think the title fits the book? Why or why not?
* 􀀉 What was the author saying about life and living through this book?
* 􀀉 Has the book helped you in any way? Explain.
* 􀀉 How have you changed after reading this book? Explain
* 􀀉 What do you know now that you didn’t know before?
* 􀀉 What questions in this book would you like answered?
* 􀀉 What do I think will happen next?
* 􀀉 What are some words I don’t know or questions I have?
* 􀀉 What does the writer’s purpose seem to be?
* 􀀉 What does the writer’s purpose seem to be?
* 􀀉 What do I notice about characters, setting, and point of view?
* 􀀉 My favorite character is…….because…..
* 􀀉 I can relate to….
* 􀀉 If I was the author, I’d change…..
* 􀀉 Something that doesn’t make sense about this story is…
* 􀀉 What I think will happen next is……
* 􀀉 If I were….(character in story), I’d…..
* 􀀉 I believe the author wanted the reader to……
* Something unrealistic or too coincidental in the story is……..
* 􀀉 My favorite sentence so far is….because……
* 􀀉 The most important character is…….because…
* 􀀉 Write a poem: A. From a character’s viewpoint B. About the setting
* C. About a character D. About the theme of the book
* 􀀉 How would the story be different if it was told: A. From a different
* B. From a narrator C. In a different time period
* 􀀉 Write a eulogy ( a speech honoring someone after death) for one of
* the characters.
* 􀀉 Create a slogan for the book and explain why you chose this…
* 􀀉 Writing a commercial script for this book.
* 􀀉 If this book would become a movie, choose 5 main scenes and why you
* chose them.
* 􀀉 This book is controversial because…..
* 􀀉 This story helps me understand the problem of…better because…..
* 􀀉 Create and explain a math formula that would summarize your plot.
* 􀀉 If you could be related to a character, who would it be and why?
* 􀀉 Turn a scene of narrative into a play script?
* 􀀉 Write a feasible solution for a problem a character has that is
* different from anything suggested in the book?
* 􀀉 In the sequel to this book, the following should happen…..
* 􀀉 Choose a color for this book and explain why it fits the story.
* 􀀉 Give 3 reasons why this book should be taught to a whole class.
* 􀀉 Examine, in detail, one character’s personality.
* 􀀉 Choose a food that represents this book and explain why.
* 􀀉 Create a theme song with lyrics for the book.
* 􀀉 If this book could be compared to a car, what model would it be and
* why?
* 􀀉 Write the body could be compared to a car, what model would it be
* and why?
* 􀀉 Write the body of a letter to the author of your book.
* 􀀉 Choose a character of the book, and decide what would be two
* appropriate birthday present for that character and explain why.
* 􀀉 Discuss a portion of the book that was too predictable.
* 􀀉 What type of reader would enjoy this book and why?
* 􀀉 This book has made me reconsider or think twice about……because….
* 􀀉 Discuss a conflict in the book that is “timeless” and “universal”
* 􀀉 If I could step into the book, the first thing I would do is
* 􀀉 I can’t understand why \_\_\_\_\_\_ doesn’t just …
* 􀀉 I laugh aloud when…
* 􀀉 I felt like crying when…
* 􀀉 I was furious when…
* 􀀉 If the book were set 50 years in the future or the past, how would
* the conflict change?
* 􀀉 Which character would you choose as a friend, brother/sister,
* boyfriend/girlfriend,
* 􀀉 mother/father?
* 􀀉 I was surprised when…..
* 􀀉 This book reminds me of the fairy tale….because….
* 􀀉 If I were making this book into a movie, the part(s) I would cut out or
* change would be…..because…..
* 􀀉 Create a cluster showing the interrelationships of the characters.
* 􀀉 Discuss how…(character) shows his/her personality through the
* dialogue in the story.
* 􀀉 Discuss how…..(character) shows his/her personality by the actions
* he/she takes.
* 􀀉 Discuss how…..(character) shows his/her personality by what other
* characters say or do toward this character.
* 􀀉 Create an award for this book. Explain the award and why this book
* received it.