

Reading Journal Activities

Pick a character or two from the story and draw them.	Construct a timeline of events in the story. (Storyboard)	Use the dictionary to look up 6 words that you do not know and write their meaning.	Write a blurb for the story.
Make a cartoon strip showing part of the story.	Compare two characters in the story. How are they similar? Different?	Design a new eye-catching front cover for the book.	Write an alternative ending for the story.
Write about your favourite part of the story and explain why.	Make a fact file about one of the characters.	Choose a page and write a list of all the adjectives.	Design a poster to advertise the book. Tell the buyers why they should buy the book.
Which character did you like the most? Explain why	Choose a page and pick a descriptive word. Use a thesaurus to find 5 alternatives.	Write a letter to the author telling them why you did or didn't like their book.	Draw a picture of where the story is set as you imagine it to be from the description in the book.
Read a passage and list the words and phrases used to create an atmosphere.	Write a new opening paragraph for the book.	Design a wanted poster for a character in the story. Remember to describe them well.	Choose a page and write down all the verbs on the page.

Discussion Questions

You may want to use these question starters with your child to encourage them to explore their reading further:

Vocabulary

- Find and copy one word that means...
- What does the word ... mean in this sentence?
- What does the phrase ... mean?
- Which of the following words is the closest in meaning to ... ?
- What does the word ... tell you about ... ?

Inference

- What makes you think that ... ?
- Explain what ... suggests about ... ?
- How can you tell that ... ?
- How do you know ... ?
- What does the word ... tell you about the character/setting/mood?
- Why were ... ?

Retrieval

- Summarise what happened in ...
- What else tells you ... ?
- Give me two reasons why ...
- What was revealed at the end of the story?
- Tell me two things you were told about ...

Prediction

- Do you think ... will happen? How does the text help you to decide this?
- What will happen next?
- What might the character's intentions be based on what you have already read?
- What does the last paragraph suggest about ... ?

Visualisation

- Which sentence best describes ... ?
- Which of the pictures best represents ... ?
- From the description, where was the... /why was the... /how was the ... ?