

INDEPENDENT READING ACTIVITIES

1. Pick a descriptive word from the text, write it down and use a thesaurus to write down five synonyms and antonyms for that word.
2. Re-read a chapter - pick out 10 words that you feel are powerful words and that you could use in your own writing.
3. How does the story hook you in at the beginning? Make a list of words or phrases that you feel are effective in making you want to read on.
4. Draw and label a character or a setting from a description in the book.
5. Choose a descriptive passage and make a list of examples of vivid imagery – similes, metaphors, alliteration, powerful verbs, adjectives and adverbs etc
6. Choose a key moment in the book and change the event. Re-write the following chapter.
7. Re-write a chapter as a playscript.
8. Think of 5 questions you would like to ask one of the characters. Then write their answers as if you were that character.
9. List the words and phrases used to create an atmosphere, such as ‘scary’ or ‘spookiness’ ‘tension’ ‘relaxed’ etc
10. Write about what a character might be thinking or feeling at different stages of the story. You could write it in the first person or in a speech bubble.
11. Predict what might happen when you are part way through a book. Write your prediction in the form of a story plan in boxes.
12. Write about a memory or experience of your own that is similar to something you have read in your book.
13. Make a list of questions you ask yourself as you read.
14. Before you finish the book, write down your predictions for the ending. After you finish, look back and check the accuracy of your prediction.
15. Write an interview or conversation between you and the main character of your book. Be sure you write detailed responses for the character.
16. Which character in your book are you most like? Explain your answer.

17. Which character in your book are you least like? Explain your answer.
18. Which character in your book would you most like to be? Explain your answer.
19. Finish this idea: "I love the way the author..." Be complete and give examples to support your opinion.
20. How did the book make you feel? Explain.
21. Who else should read your book and why? Who shouldn't read your book and why?
22. Write a letter to someone telling them about your book and your opinion of it.
23. Write a telephone answering machine message for a character in your book.
24. Construct a time line to fit your story. Include all the main events.
25. What book will you read next and why?
26. Compare this book to another / others by the same author. What is similar about them and what is different?
27. Write a book review for a book you have / have not enjoyed.
28. Write your own blurb for a book you have read.
29. Design a cover for a book you have read.
30. Draw a cartoon strip of the main events from the book.
31. Write several different possible outcomes for your book.
32. Write a newspaper article for one of the events in your book.
33. Write a diary entry for one of the characters in your book.
34. Write a letter to a problem page as if you were one of the characters in your book. Then write a response.
35. Write a summary of a book you have read that sums up the main events.
36. Dear author... write a letter to the author of your book. Tell them your opinion of their book and ask them any questions that you would want answering about the book or about what it is like to be an author.
37. Re-write a part of your book from a different character's point of view.

38. Write a telephone conversation between two characters from the book.
39. Write a telephone conversation between you and one of the characters from the book.
40. Draw a poster advertising the book. Make sure you write on the poster why people should read it.
41. Draw a picture of your favourite part of the book. Write what is happening in the picture and say why you chose this bit of the book.
42. Make up a wordsearch or a crossword for the book.
43. Make up three questions that you would ask to check if someone had read the book carefully.
44. Make a list of as many adjectives as you can from a chapter of the book.
45. Make a list of as many verbs as you can from a chapter of the book.
46. Make a list of as many adverbs as you can from a chapter of the book.
47. Find new vocabulary (words) that you do not really know the meaning of and write them in your book with the meaning next to them. Use a dictionary to find out the definition of the words.