

101 Things To Do With Books

Lots of good ideas here...

Laminate these up & cut them into cards for your class...

THE CHARACTERS

Discuss how the main character is like or unlike people you know.

THE CHARACTERS

Pretend you're one character and introduce the other characters to your class.

THE CHARACTERS

As an interior decorator, how would you decorate a character's bedroom and why?

THE CHARACTERS

Invite one character to dinner and write a note of explanation to your mother.

THE CHARACTERS

Invite three celebrities to a party for the main character and explain your choice.

THE CHARACTERS

Write a page about a character beginning with the sentence: "I was (any verb) by ..."

THE CHARACTERS

Make a time line of the events in the life of the main character.

THE CHARACTERS

Write a chronology for one character.

THE CHARACTERS

Make up five interview questions (with answers) for the main character.

THE CHARACTERS

Explain where you think the main character will die.

THE CHARACTERS

For a film of your book, which actress would you choose for the leading female and why?

THE CHARACTERS

For a film of your book, which actor would you choose for the leading male and why?

THE CHARACTERS

Explain what the main character would prefer for Christmas and why?

THE CHARACTERS

Explain where the main character would prefer to vacation and why.

THE CHARACTERS

Explain what the main character would prefer for dinner and why.

THE CHARACTERS

Explain what the main character would prefer to wear and why.

THE SETTING

Make a map of your book.

THE SETTING

Compare where you live with the neighbourhood or town in your book.

THE SETTING

Draw the setting of your book and explain it.

THE AUTHOR

Write to the author and explain your reaction to his book.

THE AUTHOR

Write to the author and explain why his book appeals to your age group.

THE AUTHOR

Make up five interview questions (with answers) for the author.

THE AUTHOR

Pretend you're the author and explain why you chose the title of your book.

THE AUTHOR

Pretend you're the author and describe the part that was most fun to write.

THE AUTHOR

Pretend you're the author and tell what else you've written.

THE AUTHOR

Pretend you're the author and tell about your life and how this book fits into it.

THE PAST

Tell what you think happened before the story began.

THE PAST

Imagine that you're an eighteenth century student: How would you react to your book?

THE PAST

If your story took place one hundred years earlier, how would your main character act?

THE PAST

If your main character is from the past, how would he act if the book took place today?

THE FUTURE

If you were a man from Mars, how would you react to your book?

THE FUTURE

Describe what you think happened to the main character after the book ended.

THE FUTURE

Explain why your book should be included in a capsule to be dug up in one hundred years.

THE FUTURE

Make a horoscope for the main character explaining his sign and his future.

COMPARISONS

Compare your book with another book you've read.

COMPARISONS

Describe an experience you've had that was like the experience of a character.

COMPARISONS

Compare your book with a movie or TV show of the same kind.

PRESENTING

Design a book cover for your book.

PRESENTING

Draw a comic strip of your book.

PRESENTING

Draw a portrait of your favourite character and explain something about it.

PRESENTING

Make any kind of illustration for your book (drawing, chart, graph) and explain it.

PRESENTING

Cut words or pictures from the newspaper to make a collage or ad for your book.

PRESENTING

Make a "WANTED" poster for the main character.

PRESENTING

Make a "thumbprint" book about your book (the figures come from thumbs dipped in paint" and write captions for these illustrations.

PRESENTING

Make a bulletin board about your book.

PRESENTING

Create a poster for your book.

PRESENTING

Write an ad for your book.

PRESENTING

Make a bookmark for your book.

PRESENTING

Collect pictures that go with your book and describe each.

PRESENTING

Write out your title decoratively and for each letter write a phrase about the book.

SPEAKING

Deliver a sales talk for your book.

SPEAKING

Make a tape about your book.

SPEAKING

Write ten discussion questions for your book.

DRAMA

Dramatise your favourite incident.

DRAMA

As a famous movie star, you have been asked to play a character: explain your answer.

DRAMA

Write a TV commercial for your book.

DRAMA

Make a TV script for one scene of your book.

DRAMA

Play "What's My Line" with one character: write out questions to portray him.

DRAMA

As a movie producer, explain why you will or will not make your book into a movie.

DRAMA

Explain how your book could be made into a movie: clothes, setting, cars, props, etc.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write any kind of poem about your book.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write a letter to a friend describing this book you are going to send him.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write a different ending for your book.

CREATIVE WRITING

Keep a journal as you read your book: your reactions, thoughts, feelings.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write a five-line "easy" poem about your book: a noun, then two adjectives, then three verbs, then a thought about the noun, and finally a synonym for the noun.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write two articles for a newspaper published at the time of or in the country of your book.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write an obituary for one character.

CREATIVE WRITING

Write a diary for your favourite character.

VOCABULARY

Make a small dictionary (at least twenty-five words) for the subject of your book.

VOCABULARY

List fifteen interesting words from your book and tell why each is interesting.

VOCABULARY

List new words learned from your book: Define them and give the sentences in which you found them.

VOCABULARY

Choose some of the following words and explain how each applies to your book: stupendous, exciting, breathtaking, horrendous, fabulous, etc.

LITERARY QUALITIES

Quote passages of good description and good dialogue and explain them.

LITERARY QUALITIES

Find and write down twenty-five similes and metaphors.

LITERARY QUALITIES

Think about who the narrator is: then write one scene from the point of view of another character and explain the switch.

LIBRARY PROJECTS

Do research on any topic connected with your book.

LIBRARY PROJECTS

In the "Reader's Guide" find five articles related to your book and tell how they apply.

LIBRARY PROJECTS

Find a quotation applicable to your book and tell how it applies.

LIBRARY PROJECTS

See if your book is in the library: then write a letter to the librarian either congratulating her for choosing it or asking her to order it.

LIBRARY PROJECTS

Find a poem which applies to your book: write it out and explain how it applies.

CAREER EDUCATION

Make a job application for the main character and fill it in.

CAREER EDUCATION

What did you learn about the vocation of the leading adult character?

CAREER EDUCATION

Find newspaper want ads of interest to a character and explain why.

VALUES CLARIFICATION

As a psychiatrist, analyse the conflicts and problems of a character.

VALUES CLARIFICATION

Would you like to have a character as a friend? Explain.

FUN

Defend: This book should be read by everyone who hates reading.

FUN

Defend: This book should never be spoiled by a teacher requiring a book report.

FUN

Free choice: Do anything you want in connection with your book.

FUN

How many reasons can you think of to take your book to an isolated Antarctica camp?

FUN

Describe a field trip you would like to take because of your book.

FUN

Write one page on this: Why should not read this book.

FUN

Make a crossword puzzle from your book.

CAREER EDUCATION

Write a business letter to the publisher and order copies of your book; explain why.

CAREER EDUCATION

From the yellow pages of a phone book, pick out businesses you think the main character would be interested in and explain why.

VALUES CLARIFICATION

How did the book change your way of thinking?

VALUES CLARIFICATION

Use this as a topic sentence, "This book made me (any verb)."

VALUES CLARIFICATION

Explain what the main character would be least likely to do and why.

VALUES CLARIFICATION

Did any character change during the book? Explain how and why.

VALUES CLARIFICATION

What problems did the main characters have and how did they meet them?

VALUES CLARIFICATION

If the book has a villain, was his punishment justified?