Reading Response Questions

Choose only one question to answer for each book you read. You should choose a different question for each book.

Incoming 1st and 2nd Graders (Current K and 1st Graders)

Parents of incoming first graders (current kindergarteners) may read the book to their child and may write their child’s dictated responses.

For fiction:
1. Write about the main problem and solution in the story.
2. Write a character trait (smart, helpful, mean, etc.) for one of the main characters. Give proof from the story. (The mother was helpful because she ________.)
3. Describe the setting including where and when the story takes place.
4. Make a connection to one of the characters in the story—did something similar happen to you? How did you feel about it?
5. What was your favorite part of the story and why?

For non-fiction:
1. What are 2 new facts you learned about the topic?
2. Write about 2 text features that you found in the informational text. What did you learn from each one? (I learned from a photograph that a frog can have stripes.)

Incoming 3rd and 4th Graders (Current 2nd and 3rd Graders)

You can start each letter by writing “This summer I read [title of book] by [author’s name]...”

For fiction:
1. Write about the main problem and solution in the story.
2. Describe the main character—include what the character looks like (physical traits) and how the character acts, such as funny, helpful, mean (personality traits).
3. Describe the setting including where and when the story takes place.
4. Make a connection to one of the characters in the story—did something similar happen to you? How did you feel about it?
5. What was your favorite part of the story and why?

For non-fiction:
1. What are 2 new facts you learned about the topic?
2. What are 2 interesting things you learned?
3. Why did you choose to read about this topic?
4. Who would you recommend to read this book and why?
Incoming 5th Graders (Current 4th Graders – Center and Neighborhood)

For fiction:

- Choose one of the characters in your book and use that character's voice to write a postcard to a character from any other book that you've read.
- Write a postcard to a character advising him or her how to resolve a conflict from the story.
- Do you agree with the actions of the protagonist/main character in your story? Explain why or why not.
- If you could change one thing about the story, what would it be? Why?
- What was your favorite line or lines from the book? Why?
- Write a postcard to the author asking any questions about the story that you have or offering suggestions to improve the story.
- Pretend you are visiting a character in the story. Use imagery to describe the setting.
- Describe a different ending for the story.
- Describe the plot for a sequel or prequel to the book.

For non-fiction:

- Write a postcard to someone who hasn't read the book and explain the topic.
- What questions do you still have about the topic? How could you find answers?
- Make a connection between the nonfiction book you read and a fiction book, movie, or song.
- Explain how the text features in the book help you understand the information.