

How to Lead a Literature Circle

(Teacher Information)

Prior to the meeting, write one question on the board for students to answer in the Teacher Question section. Allow time to write answers and then invite students to form a circle. Make sure everyone brings their Literature Packet and their book to the circle. Sit on the carpet or around a large table.

Summary

- Ask someone to summarize the selection. Discuss the summary (some kids write too much, while others leave out important details.)

Vocabulary

- Have each person give one word they selected. Ask them to read the sentence and/or paragraph from which the word came. Ask the group to make educated guesses about the word. Allow the person to give the dictionary definition and discuss connotations.

General Discussion

Start off with some general questions like the following:

- How did you feel while reading this part of the book?
- Did anything in this section surprise you?
- What was the most exciting, interesting, funny, or confusing part? Would someone like to read that paragraph or section aloud? (Preparation for the future role of Literary Luminary.)
- What kinds of connections can you make between things that happened in the book and something in your own life? (Preparation for future role of Connector.)

Discussion of Student Questions

- Ask everyone to read aloud their questions without giving answers. Discuss the quality of the questions and choose several of the best questions to discuss as a group.
- Discuss Teacher Question and answer.

Closure

- Discuss the graphic organizer.
- Ask students to make predictions about what will happen next.
- Make sure everyone knows what the reading assignment is for the upcoming week.



Literature Circle Preparation

Name _____

Title: _____

Pages: _____

Due Date: _____



Summary (What happened?)

New Words	Page #	My Best Guess	Dictionary Definition
_____ _____		_____ _____	_____ _____
_____ _____		_____ _____	_____ _____

Question:

Answer:

Teacher Question:

Answer:

Selections to Read Aloud:

Location:	Reasons for Picking	Plan for Sharing
1. Page _____	_____	_____
Paragraph _____	_____	_____
2. Page _____	_____	_____
Paragraph _____	_____	_____

Connections:

Some connections I found between this reading and the world outside were:

1. _____

2. _____

Draw a picture or use a graphic organizer to show something important about the story. Be ready to tell about your work.

Comments to share with your group (reasons why you drew that illustration, what it means to you, what part of the story it represents, etc.):

Name _____

LITERATURE GROUP RUBRIC

STANDARD: Language - 1 – Students read critically and interpret a variety of materials.

CRITERIA	GETTING STARTED	NOT YET	GOT IT	WOW
Comprehension: Understood the questions	Few questions answered correctly	Some questions answered correctly	Most questions answered correctly	All questions answered correctly
Detail	Little detail when answering questions	Some detail answering questions	Enough detail to show understanding of story	Details show insight beyond questions
Group Discussion	No participation	Some active participation	Mostly active participation	Constant, active participation
Neatness	Messy and unreadable	Messy but readable	Mostly neat and readable	Completely neat and readable
Grammar	Little correct spelling, capital letters, and punctuation	Some correct spelling, capital letters and punctuation	Mostly correct spelling, capital letters and punctuation	Completely correct spelling, capital letters and punctuation

1/20/97 Judy Allen

Literature Circle Preparation

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Answer:

Teacher Question:

Answer:

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Question:

Answer:

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