Reading Response Journal Questions

Directions: Choose one question per week and write an entry of at least 5 sentences (keeping your personal best in mind). You may use a question from this list or create your own. Be sure to show how you are reading between the lines and connecting to the text. Mrs. Fischer loves to read about what you’re thinking! 😊

First Feelings

(These may be good questions if you haven’t finished the book yet.)

- What do you think of the beginning chapters?
- How do you feel about the main characters?
- What memories does the beginning bring to mind? These can be memories from your own life or from other books you’ve read.
- What interests you so far….or turns you off?
- After reading part of the text, which events or actions are unclear to you? How so?
- How do you feel about the characters now?
- Why are you so involved (or uninvolved) in the reading? What drew you in?
- What confuses, concerns, or angers you so far?
- How is the story similar to or different from experiences in your own life?
- If I were (name of character) at this point, I would....

Feelings Revisited

- After getting part of the way through, what is happening?
- What words, actions, and events are important?
- Does the main character(s) react to important events as you would?
- What bothers you, or confuses you?

After the Reading

- Final Thoughts
  - How do you react to the ending?
  - Have the characters changed in any way?
  - Would you be friends with (character name)?
  - Have you changed in any way?
  - What do you like the most or the least about this book?
  - Why would (wouldn’t) you recommend this book to anyone else?

- What character did you feel most happy for? Why?
- What character did you identify with or feel the most sympathy? What is it about the character that made you feel this way?
- What kind of a person is (character name)?
- Write a letter to a character or from one character to another
- Write a poem or song from or about one of the characters
- Resolution: Did the story end the way you expected it to? Reflect back on the story. What clues did the author offer along the way to prepare you for the ending? Did you recognize these clues as important to the story when you were reading it?
- What is the overall message or theme of the story? Give examples of how the author makes you think of this theme as you read.
- Style: Is there anything that seems to make this particular author's work unique?
- What question would you ask the author?
- Do any of the characters change during the story? Tell how.
- What was the saddest / funniest event in the story?
- Write about your favorite part of the story?
- If your book took place in a different setting, how would that change the story? Why?
- What are your favorite lines or quotes? Copy them into your journal and tell why you like them.
- Were you able to predict the ending? What other way might the story have ended?
- Write a different ending to the story.
- What might happen if the story continued? Write the next chapter or book.
- Under headings such as people, animals, places, things, list important words from the story.
- I think the relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting because
- I like/dislike (name of character) because
- This situation reminds me of a similar situation in my own life. It happened when
- The character I most admire is _____ because
- What you liked or disliked and why
- What you wish had happened
- What you wish the author had included
- Your opinion of the characters
- Your opinion of the illustrations, table and figures
- What you felt as you read
- What you noticed when you read
- Questions you have after reading
- How have you changed after reading this book?
- What do you know now that you didn’t know before?
- What questions about this book would you like answered?
- Would you like to read more books by this author? Why?
- Describe the setting
- Describe the characters
- Would you be friends with (character name)? Why or why not?
- That reminds me of...
- That made me think of the time...
- I can relate...
- This part is just like...
- That reminds me of...
- This is similar to...

I think...
I wonder...
I know...
I predict...
I find...
I suspect...
I admire...
I like...
I don’t like...
I feel...
I was surprised...
I was impressed by...
I noticed that ...

It's hard to believe....
If I had been there, I would have....
I don’t understand....
This is similar to....
I read another book where...
The part about _____ reminds me of _____
My favorite part is when...
A part that I find confusing is...
I would change...
I am most like the character...
An interesting word / sentence / idea is...
I thought it was funny when...
I can relate to this chapter / story / character because...
The part that makes a real picture in my mind is....