

FOCUS



After reading your reading book, complete ONE of these tasks, set your work out in your journal just like the examples shown. 😊 Remember all classrooms have dictionaries and thesauruses to help you if you need them!

A. Choose a photo from the class box.

Infer what is happening based upon what you can see. Aim to make at least 6 inferences about the picture!

(Y4 23,24) (Y3 25,26)

B. Find text evidence to show that a character how characters are feeling: eg. sad, happy, angry, scared or other emotions. Match the feeling to the text evidence. Find at least 5.

(Y4 23,24) (Y3 25,26)

C. Write down sentences from the text and what they tell you. Make a chart to show your inferences. Aim to do at least 5 different quotes and answers.

(Y4 23,24) (Y3 25,26)

D. Choose characters and look for how the author uses 'show not tell'. e.g. "he clenched his fists and went red" show he's angry.

Write the phrases and explain your inferences about them.

(Y4 23,24) (Y3 25,26)

E. Is there a theme or message in this book? Good v bad? A moral or lesson? Is the author trying to persuade us to think something? Explain, giving examples from the text.

(Y4 39) (Y3 41)

F. After reading the book, what questions would you like to ask either a character or the author? Think of at least 6 open-ended questions and use different question words. Choose one and think of the possible answer too!

(Y4 20) (Y3 19)

Tick in each box when you have completed that journal. Aim to complete all tasks from A to F, before you repeat any task again.

Help sheet examples of Journal tasks – For children and families

A. Photo from class box – Look carefully to make inferences



You need to make 6 different inferences.

I think it is a man and he has jumped from a plane.

He is on his own so must have done this before.

It could be a competition or a race.

I think he is enjoying the ride as he looks relaxed and he is smiling.

B. Feelings – aim for at least 5 like this...

Pick a phrase and then explain what feeling it shows

“...the thieves pushed people aside and ran right up to the counter, shouting...”

This shows aggression, the robbers are not being polite and are commanding people.

“...People dived to the floor and scrambled away...”

This shows they are scared – they are moving fast to get away from the thieves.

C. Write inferences from the text

Write down sentences from the text and what they tell you. You could make a chart just like this one to show your inferences. Aim to do at least 5 different quotes and answers.

| When the text said... | I can infer... |
|---|---|
| Next day, if there was no thunder shower, all hands would help to haul the hay to the barn. | The phrase 'all hands' suggests that everyone is expected to help with the movement of the hay. |
| Next day, if there was no thunder shower, all hands would help to haul the hay to the barn. | The word 'haul' suggests that it is a huge job and it isn't easy to do. You usually haul things that are heavy and difficult to move about. |

D. Show not tell is when the author uses clues to show how a character feels, without actually saying it! Look for examples in your book, and explain them.

Try to use phrases like “The author is showing us...” or “The author wants us to think...” For example:

Angry:

Kate’s face reddened and she stamped her feet. She clenched her fists tightly and started to yell....

I think the author is showing us how angry Kate is, as these are all actions when you are mad. In the story, she is annoyed with her friend for the tackle in the game.

E. A message or moral?

Most stories have a theme or a message, often trying to show us how to live or the triumph of right over wrong. Even non-fiction books can try to make us think or believe a certain thing... Think about what your book is telling you, and explain using examples.

Ruby’s worry is a book which tries to teach us that sharing worries is important. In the story, Ruby is overwhelmed by her worries and keeps them bottled up, so they get bigger and bigger. When she actually tells someone though, it gets smaller and she can cope. This book is teaching us that its normal to have worries and by sharing them, we can cope with them and they can become smaller and easier to deal with. I think it is a really important book for helping people cope with their mental health.

F. Think of questions to either ask the characters or the author of the book.

Try to make them open-ended and use different question words – at least 6!

After reading Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone

To Hermione: Why did you know so much about spells before attending Hogwarts?

How did you feel when you had to try them out?

To JK.Rowling

Is Hermione like you? Would you have liked to have been a wizard?

How did you come up with all the different characters and their names?

***Challenge – answer one of the questions!**