

Independent Reading and Book Response

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child reads independently from their chapter book for 15-20 minutes, then writes or draws a response. This lesson establishes the reading-response habit that develops comprehension, critical thinking, and the ability to articulate opinions about literature.

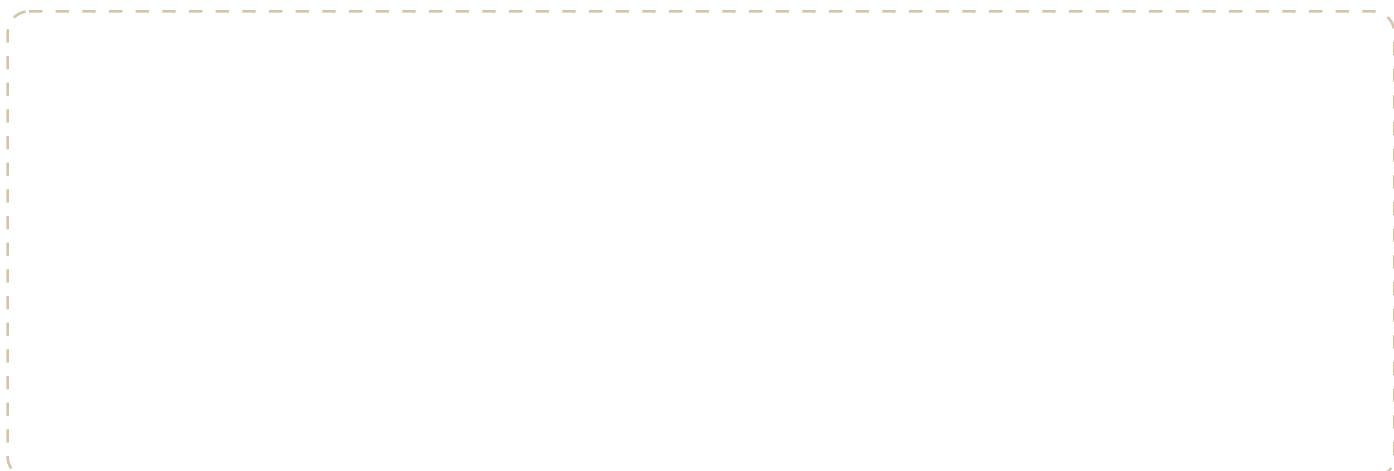
What You Need:

- Child's chapter book
- Bookmark
- Reading response journal
- Pencil
- Timer
- Cozy reading spot

Steps:

1. 'Today is independent reading time. Find your chapter book, your cozy spot, and read for 15 minutes.'
2. Set a timer. Child reads independently. Be nearby but do not interrupt.
3. After reading: 'Tell me what happened in today's chapters.'
4. 'What was your favorite part? Why?'
5. 'Was there anything confusing or surprising?'
6. Introduce the reading response journal: 'After reading, write a few sentences about what you read.'
7. Model a simple response: 'Today I read chapters 3 and 4. Frog was sad because Toad went away. I think Toad will come back because they are best friends.'
8. Child writes their own response (3-5 sentences).
9. 'Include: what happened, how you feel about it, and what you think will happen next.'

Work Space:

A large, dashed rectangular box occupies the bottom half of the page, intended for the child to write their reading response.

