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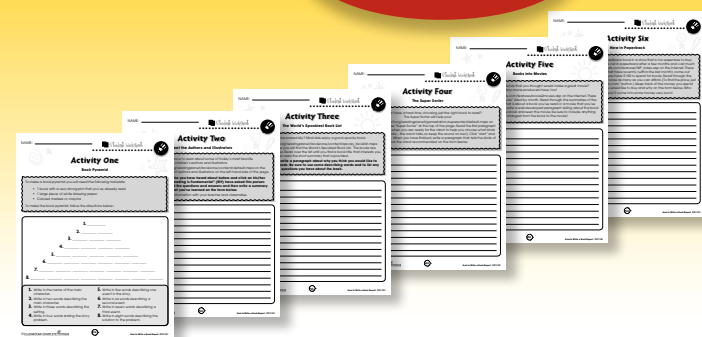


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Before You Write Your Book Report

1. Arrange the following steps in the book report writing process in the order that they should occur by putting **1** by what happens first, etc.

- _____ a) Writing the first draft of the report
- _____ b) Choosing a book to read
- _____ c) Getting a grade on your book report
- _____ d) Presenting your book report
- _____ e) Making notes as you read the book
- _____ f) Proofreading your report
- _____ g) Writing the final draft of your report
- _____ h) Returning your book to the library
- _____ i) Organizing your ideas before you begin to write
- _____ j) Talking to others about the kinds of books they like to read

2. Write a short paragraph about the genre of books that you enjoy reading and tell why you enjoy them. You should give at least two book titles as examples of the kinds of books you like to read.

3. Name one of your favorite authors:



How to Write a Fiction Book Report

Writing a fiction book report is like writing any other kind of essay. You will go through the same steps: prewriting, drafting, proofreading, revising, and presenting your report. However, you should make sure that you understand what a fiction book is.

There are many different genres, or kinds of books. A **fiction book** is a novel or story that describes **imaginary** people and events made up by the **author**, or the person who wrote the book. All fiction books have **characters** (who the story is about), a **setting** (the time and place the story happens), and **plot** (what happens in the book or story). Be sure to include all of these elements in your fiction book report.

The first step in writing a fiction book report is to **choose the book you want to read** unless your teacher has already assigned a book to you. You can ask your media specialist or teacher for their **recommendations** or suggestions of good books, or you may ask your classmates or friends. After you have considered all the choices, it's up to you to pick a book that you want to write about.

The next step in writing a fiction book report is **reading the book**. It is impossible for you to write a good book report if you've only read parts of the book. Read the book and make notes in a reading journal as you're reading. A **reading journal** is the place where you can write down information about the basic elements of your book—plot, setting, characters, timeline, and any questions that you might have while you are reading.

After you finish reading your book, it's time for you to begin the prewriting process. You may use a graphic organizer to help you keep your ideas in order as you plan your report. Be sure to include your comments or thoughts from your reading journal.

Your teacher will probably assign a form for your book report. Forms are really useful because they help you remember all the things you should include in your report. We will talk about these forms a bit later in this book. When you've finished prewriting, it's time for you to begin your first draft of the book report. After the first draft, you should revise, proofread, and finally, write the final draft of the report. Now you're ready to present your "masterpiece" to your classmates and teacher!



Non Fiction Book Reports

1. Identify the type of nonfiction book each title represents by placing an **I** in front of the informative books, a **B** in front of the biographies, and an **A** in front of the autobiographies.

Keep in mind that **Informative Books** are books that provide useful or interesting information. Informative books include all kinds of textbooks such as science, social studies, and history books. A **Biography** is the story of a person's life written, composed, or produced by another person. And an **Autobiography** is a narrative in which an individual tells his or her own life story.

- a) *Maya Angelou: A Song Flung up to Heaven* by Maya Angelou
- b) *The Big Book of Dinosaurs* by Angela Wilkes
- c) *I Had a Hammer: the Hank Aaron Story* by Hank Aaron
- d) *Spiders Spin Webs: And Other Questions about Insects* by Amanda O'Neill
- e) *Rachel: The Story of Rachel Carson* by Amy Erlich
- f) *Founding Father: Rediscovering George Washington* by Richard Brookhiser
- g) *Sacajawea: The Story of Bird Woman and the Lewis and Clark Expedition* by J. Brouchaud
- h) *The Titanic* by Judy Donnelly
- i) *First Son: George W. Bush and the Bush Dynasty* by Bill Minutaglia
- j) *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder

2. List at least three suggestions of books that you'd like to read under each of the nonfiction headings.

Informative Books	Biography	Autobiography
a) _____	_____	_____
b) _____	_____	_____
c) _____	_____	_____



Graphic Organizers for Oral Book Reports

Put the letter of the correct term beside the correct meaning:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------|
| A notes | <input type="checkbox"/> | a listing of all the most important points in a book or story. | 1 |
| B note cards | <input type="checkbox"/> | a word, phrase, sentence, or group of sentences that relates a preceding topic to a succeeding one or that smoothly connects parts of a speech or piece of writing | 2 |
| C body language | <input type="checkbox"/> | a restatement of what a character says in a book or story. | 3 |
| D transitions | <input type="checkbox"/> | a graphic organizer that lets the presenter list all the elements of a story or book as part of an oral or written book report. | 4 |
| E outline | <input type="checkbox"/> | a graphic organizer that lets the presenter list all the conflicts and solutions which occur in a book as part of an oral or written book report. | 5 |
| F oral quiz | <input type="checkbox"/> | index cards or similar cards used for recording notes or other information. | 6 |
| G quotation | <input type="checkbox"/> | a graphic organizer that lets the presenter list all the events in a story or book in the order they occurred as part of an oral or written book report. | 7 |
| H story map | <input type="checkbox"/> | a summary of important facts or points written down by a reader or speaker. | 8 |
| I sequence map | <input type="checkbox"/> | gestures, unconscious bodily movements, facial expressions, etc. which serve as nonverbal communication or as accompaniments to speeches or reports. | 9 |
| J problem/solution map | <input type="checkbox"/> | a short, vocal question and answer session. | 10 |



You have spent a great deal of time writing book reports. Now let's write to the author of one of your favorite books!

On your computer, go to <http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/biochildhome.htm>. There you will find several choices beginning with "Print bibliographies" and continuing to all the letters of the alphabet. Choose a letter and click on it. Here you will find many children's authors listed. Click on any name that is followed by "teacher resource file" and read about that author. When you have finished, write the rough draft below of an e-mail that you'd like to send to this author. Be sure to ask questions about their books and characters.



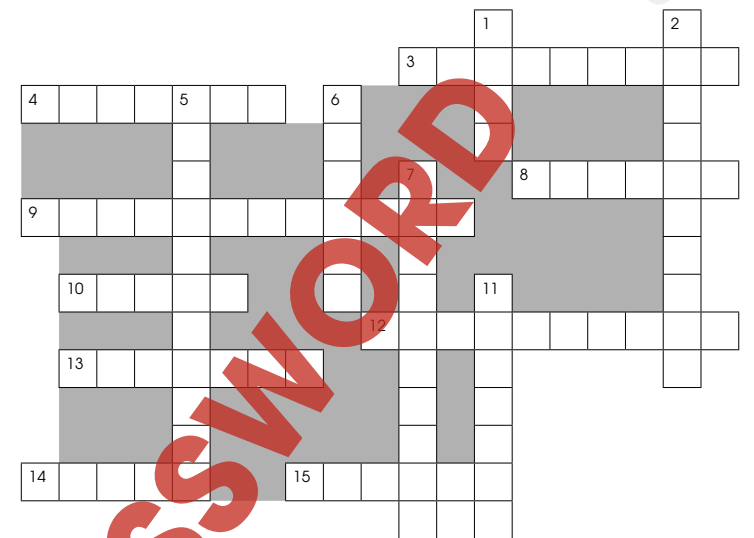
Choose a favorite character from a book you have read. Now pretend that you and this character can go on a five-day vacation together. Write a diary entry for each day describing the events of each day. You may use additional paper from your notebook if you like.



Crossword

Word List

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| biography | organizer |
| body | quotes |
| book report | setting |
| characters | theme |
| fantasy | title |
| genres | visual |
| informative | |
| introduction | |
| mystery | |



Across

- A true story about a real person's life that is written by another person
- The time and place of a story or book
- _____ Aids are often used in oral book reports
- The first section of a book report
- The main idea of a story or book
- Graphic _____
- A story about a crime, or an investigation
- The name of a book
- Kinds or types of books or stories

Down

- The middle section of a book report
- Who the book or story is about
- One type of nonfiction book
- Actual words spoken by a character in a book or story
- An essay which gives a brief summary of a book
- A story about imaginary characters or places



Comprehension Quiz

7. Complete each statement by **circling** the correct term.



- Which part of a book report should include the title (name) and author (writer) of the book you read; why you chose the book; and the kind of story the book tells?
introduction body conclusion
- Which part of a book report is the summary of your book report?
introduction body conclusion
- Which part of a book report is the section in which you describe the main parts of a story: theme, plot, setting, and characters?
introduction body conclusion
- What kind of graphic organizer gives you an opportunity to list all the important events in a book in the order that they occurred?
Cause and Effect Map Sequence Chart Characterization Comparison Map
- What term means "all the elements that must be included in any good book report"?
Visual aids mechanics form

8. Write at least one well-developed paragraph describing all the elements of a good book report.



SUBTOTAL: /10

Biography Research Page

This is a biography of: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Three questions I would like to research:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Notes (write keywords and facts)

Write the sources of your information:

- _____
- _____
- _____



Kinds of Book Reports

Use one of the terms in the box to fill in each blank.

Fiction	nonfiction	adventure	historical fiction stories	family
historical fact stories	mystery	realistic fiction	science fiction	science stories
fairy tales & fantasy	biographies	animal storybooks	nature	

- a) All books can be classified as _____ or _____.
- b) _____ books are stories that are made up by the author.
- c) _____ books are about real things, people, events, and places.
- d) _____ books are about the environment, taking care of the earth, nature, or wildlife and are fact.
- e) _____ books are about exciting journeys, interesting places, heroes, and spies, and can be fiction or nonfiction.
- f) _____ and _____ books are about dragons, wizards, imaginary characters and places, and are fiction.
- g) _____ books are about crimes, investigations, puzzles with no answers, and questions about animals or other creatures and can be fiction or nonfiction.
- h) _____ are books about true stories about real people's lives and are fact.
- i) _____ books are about possible future events, travel to other galaxies, and future inventions and are fiction.
- j) _____ are books about real life in other times and real people from the past.



The Writing Watch Dog says,
"Genre means a particular type of literature. All the words in the box above name different genres books for students."

- a) fiction, nonfiction
- b) fiction
- c) nonfiction
- d) nature
- e) adventure
- f) fairy tales, fantasy
- g) mystery

1.

- a) accept any reasonable answer
- b) accept any reasonable answer
- c) accept any reasonable answer

2.

- a) science fiction
- b) biographies
- b) biography
- c) historical fact
- d) nature
- e) family
- f) fairy tales
- g) adventure
- h) science fiction
- i) nature
- j) historical fact stories

1.

- a) 5
- b) 2
- c) 9
- d) 8
- e) 3
- f) 6
- g) 7
- h) 10
- i) 4
- j) 1

1.

- a) FALSE
- b) TRUE
- c) FALSE
- d) TRUE
- e) FALSE

f) FALSE

g) TRUE

h) TRUE

i) FALSE

j) FALSE

3.

accept any reasonable response

13

2.

accept any reasonable response

15

10

12

EASY MARKING ANSWER KEY

