

Below are directions for individual projects to extend the understanding of a book. I used these ideas at the end of third grade after students had experimented with various kinds of book talks and projects. These could be modified to work with small groups. Directions for two types of six-page books are shown on the back of the book review page in this newsletter. If you have any questions or would like to see a scoring rubric, just send an e-mail to antikajian@4j.lane.edu

Book Projects

I. The first project is to make a folded six-page book about your mystery book. The cover should list the title, author's name and your name. It should have an attractive design or illustration. The inside pages should show: (1) the main characters, (2) the setting, (3) the problem, and (4,5,and 6) three events in order. The back cover should show the solution or conclusion. Each page should be labeled to tell who the characters are, where the setting is, or what is happening. Use color and do your best, most careful, work. (Everyone is required to do this one)

II. The second project may be chosen from any of the following:

1. Plan a party for the main character.

Design an invitation telling the time, place, and what kind of party it is.

Plan a theme that goes with the book and tell how the guests should dress for this theme.

Choose food and drinks to be served that will fit the theme.

Plan entertainment, games, prizes, etc. that go with your book.

Make a list of five to eight gifts the main character might request for his or her birthday. Explain why the character would want these things.

2. Write a TV news report about an event that happened in the book. Make sure you give enough information so someone who doesn't know anything about the book will understand it and be interested. Make it exciting. Video tape yourself giving this report or present it to the class.

3. Pretend the book has been made into a movie. How would you advertise it so people would want to see it? Write an advertisement and make a large poster to go with it. You can make up a different title for your movie and then say that it is based on the book (title) written by (author).List the leading actors (real or imaginary, you could include yourself) and the parts they play. Write a little about these actors and why they are so good in the movie.

4. Design a T-shirt for your main character that reflects his or her personality. Make sure you show the front and the back. Make it life sized (adult). Use two pieces of paper (one for the front and one for the back) cut in the shape of a shirt or use a real shirt. Write a paragraph on a separate sheet of paper explaining why you chose the pictures and words you used and how they fit the character or the events in the book.

5. Flip Book - Ask for directions.

6. Other - Check with me first to see if it will work.