A. Draw 4 objects that represent what you’ve read. Then, write a sentence for each, telling what each item says about what you’ve been reading.
Write about a personal connection you made to the story, character, or topic discussed in the text. You may draw a picture to go along with your writing.

I connected to...

Hints:

- Focusing on text-to-self connections:
  - What does this story remind you of?
  - Can you relate to the characters in the story?
  - Does anything in this story remind you of anything in your own life?

- Focusing on text-to-text connections:
  - What does this remind you of in another book you have read?
  - How is this text similar to other things you have read?
  - How is this text different from other things you have read?

- Focusing on text-to-world connections:
  - What does this remind you of in the real world?
  - How are events in this story similar to things that happen in the real world?
  - How are events in this story different from things that happen in the real world?

Source: http://www.readwritethink.org/professional-development/strategy-guides/making-connections-30659.html
B. If the author of your book were here, what would you ask him or her? Then, explain why or how the question might help you understand the text better.

Question Starters: who, what, when, where, why, how, can, does, do, did

Question 1: ____________________________________________

Why or How ___________________________________________

Question 2: ____________________________________________

Why or How ___________________________________________

Question 3: ____________________________________________

Why or How ___________________________________________

Question 4: ____________________________________________

Why or How ___________________________________________
C. If you were a character in this book, who would you be and why?

The character in this book is ___________ and I would like to also be:

1. ________________________________  
2. ________________________________  
3. ________________________________  
4. ________________________________  
5. ________________________________  
6. ________________________________

If I were a character in this book I would be ___________ because...
D. Is the setting described well enough that you can picture it in your mind like a movie or picture? Why or why not?

Sounds like:

Looks like:

Smells like:

Feels like:

Tastes like:

Sketch (draw) a quick picture of the setting you described in the thinking cloud below.
*REMEMBER to site specific parts of the text when possible!!!
For example in the nursery rhyme Wee Willie Winkie, it described the different places Willie went when visiting houses to check if the other children were in their beds; upstairs, downstairs, tapping at the window, crying through the lock.

The setting described well enough that I can picture it in my mind because...


Based on the picture you drew describe the setting in your own words.

Most of the story took place ...
E. Explain at least three (3) problems the characters faced and the outcome or resolution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Outcome / Resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He fell and scraped his knee.</td>
<td>He put a Band-Aid on his knee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Outcome or Resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which problem was the most life changing for the characters? _____________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

How did the problem change the characters life/lives? _________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
F. What is the mood of what you’re reading?

Example: Because the Knock-Knock joke book was funny, I felt happy. The mood of the book was happy and upbeat.

In my opinion the mood of the text was ...

because it made me feel ...

when I read the part about...

Give examples from the text to support your ideas about the mood of the text.

The part of the text that makes me think the mood of the piece is  was on page

when...

Another part of the text that makes me think the mood of the text is  was on page

when...
G. What have you learned about life from what you’re reading?

For Example: I learned that it is important in life to give others a second chance from the text Because of Winn Dixie. The main character Opal gave all of her new friends and Winn Dixie a second chance to have a community family. Because of this, I will give others in my community family a second chance when they make a mistake.

Reading this text taught me ...

I will use this new information in the future by ...

when I ...

this might result in ...
H. Which character is most like you? Describe how he or she is like you?

I am like

List the qualities you share with the character you chose in the box below. Use the qualities you listed to write your answer to question H.

The character and I are alike because of the following qualities (things):

1. We both
2. We both
3. We both
4. We both
5. We both
6. We both
7. We both
8. We both

Remember most like you means how you are the same as the character you chose. This is like looking in a mirror and seeing what things are the same.

is the character who is the most like me because ...
I. What you are reading is going to be made into a movie. Describe which actors would play the characters in the book. Tell why they are the best to play the part.

If the book were made into a movie I would choose ... to play...

because I think...

1. Draw the actors who you will describe on the movie screen.

2. Then list the qualities you sketched on the movie screen in the blank space below.
J. Write about how one character feels. Write about a time you felt this way too.

Use the organizer below to brainstorm and get your thoughts on paper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Based on evidence from the text when the character...</th>
<th>We Both Felt</th>
<th>Based on evidence from my life experiences when I...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Feelings: hopeful, expectant, absorbed, alert, curious, engrossed, eager, energetic, horrified, fearful, reluctant, enthusiastic, loved, impulsive, rebellious, unique, magnanimous, overjoyed, apathetic, bold, guilty, perplexed, incensed, worried, anxious, sad, perky

In the text
__________ based on the part when the character...

I think the character felt...

I remember the time I felt this way too. It was when...

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
K. Select a quote from your reading that you liked. What made you pick it? How does it make you pause and think?

I chose the quote:

Jon thought, “That magazine article really made me think about how often I recycle cans.”
He especially liked the part that said, “More than 75% of all recycled materials are remade into useable consumer goods.”

I chose this quote because it...

The part about this quote that made me pause and think was...

Remember a quote is an exact writing of what someone has said or written.

When quoting use quotation marks.

“Quotation marks”

Capitalize and Punctuate inside the quotation marks.

For example:

“I have a dream.”
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
L. Pretend you are a talk show host and two (2) characters are guests on your show. Which characters would you choose and why? What questions would you ask each character?

I chose this character because:
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

The two guest characters I chose were...

because....
M. List three (3) new vocabulary words you found as you were reading. What can you tell about them from the context clues? What do you think they mean?

REMEMBER GOOD READERS USE CLUES TO FIND THE MEANING OF UNKNOWN WORDS!

Tips & Tricks for Using Context Clues
Wait! Don’t skip that word! Instead try...
- Look right after the word for clues (ideas).
- See if there is a group of words in a comma set (appositive) after the word (definition, example).
- Look in the previous sentence for clues.
- Look in the following sentence for clues.
- Replace the unknown word with a “guess” word and see if it makes sense.
- Use word parts to give clues. (roots, suffixes, prefixes, base words, compound words)
- Break the word apart. (vowels by 2 / consonants by 3)
- Consider the word’s function in the sentence. (parts of speech: noun, adjective, verb, adverb)
- Think about the feelings in the texts “world.”

Both pictures are about getting a shot and the context changes the way the viewer feels about the picture.

The first picture isn’t very scary because the dog is getting the shot.

In the second picture, it is scary, because I am the one getting the shot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary Word</th>
<th>Context the word was used in</th>
<th>Based on the context and the way the word looks or sounds, I think this word means...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
N. What are some things that you don’t understand as you are reading? Explain.

Example

When I read Shel Silverstein’s poems the first time, I didn’t understand that he was meaning to be goofy and carefree with his words.

Once I understood his purpose for writing the text was to humor the reader then I could laugh instead of trying to understand nonsensical words.

When reading the text

I did not understand...

on page . I think I did not understand because...

When reading the text

I did not understand...

on page . I think I did not understand because...
O. What object from the story is important? Draw it and explain why it is important.

Draw the object in the box below. Then brainstorm for the reasons why and list them in the ‘Brainstorm Because Box’.

Use the reasons you listed in the ‘Brainstorm Because Box’ to write your response to question O in the space below.

The object I chose from the story is...

It is important to the text because...

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

P. What have you found boring about what you’ve been reading? What made it boring? If you were the author, how would you make it more interesting?

I found... boring in the text I am reading. In my opinion it was boring because...

If I were the author I would have made it more interesting by...
Q. What emotions do you feel as you are reading? Describe what is going on in the story to make you feel that way.

When I read...

 it made me feel...

when I got to the part of the story that...

Part of the story:

Feeling:

How did reading and feeling that way help you better understand the story?
R. Who is the author? What do you know about him/her? Does the book tell you anything about the author (check on the cover or an internet search engine)? What do you imagine the author must be like?

The author of the text is...

List anything the text says about the author (writer) of the piece.
1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

I already know this about the author:
1. 
2. 
3. 

I imagine (pretend think) the author must be:
1. 
2. 
3. 

The author of the text I read is...

The book explains that the author...

I already knew before reading the text that the author...

Based on the text, the author information, and my background knowledge, I imagine the author is...
**S. What surprises you in the story? Explain why?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>It surprised me when...</th>
<th>Because...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>It surprised me when...</th>
<th>Because...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When...  
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

happened it surprised me because...

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

I also read a something else that surprised me. The part of the text when...

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

It surprised me because...

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
T. Why do you think the author wrote this story? What was the purpose for writing the text?

For Example

The author wanted the reader to think about how to make different types of food by herself.

The author’s purpose for writing the children’s cook book is to inform children how to prepare (make) different culinary dishes.

The author wanted the reader to think...

I think this because...

In my opinion the author’s purpose for writing the text was to...

the reader. I know this based on the part of the text that...