



Good Tidings

Substitute Teacher Kit

Easy, meaningful activities for days when plans change.

Read ♥

Be Kind ♥

Explore ♥

Grow ♥

Brighter days are ahead!
♥



Good Tidings

Kindness

Curiosity

Confidence

Brighter Days

Substitute ? Start Here!

A simple guide for a great day!

Different day.
Same amazing kids.
You've got this!

Read
Create
Explore
Be Kind

No special prep is required!

Everything you need is right here in this kit.
Just pick a path and you're set!

1

**Have a Book?
Read It Aloud!**



- Choose a book from the classroom or use a favorite.
- Read it aloud to the class.
- Use the Read-Aloud Prompt Cards (pages 3–4) for easy discussion questions and quick activities before, during, or after reading.

Reading brings people together!

2

**No Book?
Use an Independent Activity!**



- Choose an activity from the Independent Activities section (pages 5–12).
- Each activity is ready to go with simple directions.
- Students can work on their own, at their seats, with minimal explanation.

Meaningful learning, no prep needed!

3

**Extra Time?
Choose an Early Finisher Card!**



- If students finish early or you have extra time, choose an Early Finisher Card (pages 13–20).
- These quick, independent options keep students engaged, creative, and on task.
- Great for a few minutes or a longer block of time.

Curious minds are always busy in the best ways!



Helpful Reminders

- ✓ No special materials are required.
- ✓ Activities are designed to be independent and easy to use.
- ✓ It's okay if you don't get to everything — any activity is a win!
- ✓ Thank you for being here and supporting our learners!

You make a difference today!



Good Tidings

Different day. Brighter possibilities!



Substitute Teacher Quick Prep

Thank you for being here!

Here are the activities I would like you to use today.
Please circle the ones to include.



1. Read-Aloud Prompts



- ☐ Stop & Think Prompt Cards – Page 1
- ☐ Stop & Think Prompt Cards – Page 2

2. Independent Activities



- ☐ Story Detective
- ☐ Somebody Wanted But So Then
- ☐ Three Things That Matter
- ☐ Character Choice Investigator
- ☐ Word Collector
- ☐ The Missing Scene
- ☐ Change One Thing...Then Draw It
- ☐ Tell It!
- ☐ Picture First, Story Second

3. Need 10 More Minutes?



- ☐ Need 10 More Minutes? Cover
- ☐ Need 10 More Minutes? Activity Page

4. Early Finisher Choice Cards



- ☐ Cards 1 – 4
- ☐ Cards 5 – 8
- ☐ Cards 9 – 12
- ☐ Cards 13 – 16

5. Choice Board & Reflection



- ☐ Choose Your Challenge Choice Board
- ☐ Substitute Day Reflection

6. Teacher Guide



- ☐ Teacher Standards & Skills Guide



Materials

These materials are ready for you:

- ☐ This packet (printed or digital)
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Crayons / colored pencils
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Paper (if needed)
- ☐ Scissors (if needed)
- ☐ Glue (if needed)
- ☐ Any additional materials:

Notes for the Substitute



Class / Grade: _____

Date: _____

Times to use activities: _____

Students to work with / support: _____

Additional notes: _____



Helpful Reminders

- ☐ Keep it positive and relaxed.
- ☐ Students can work independently.
- ☐ Encourage creativity and effort.
- ☐ It's okay if they don't finish.
- ☐ Thank you for being here – you make a difference!

Thank you for helping our Good Tidings learners!



Good Tidings

Stories
Spark
Brighter
Days

For
Teachers
Who Make
a Difference

Good Tidings Read-Aloud

Prompt Pack

Pick a prompt.
Read together.
Talk about it.

Curious
Readers
Brighter
Tomorrows

Read

Think

Talk

Grow

Great
conversations
start with
a good
story.

Kinder
Thinkers
Brighter
World

Same
stories.
New
possibilities.

Imagination

Connection

Confidence

A Brighter Tomorrow

GOOD TIDINGS
where reading feels like fun

Good Tidings
Read-Aloud
Prompt Pack

Before Reading

Get Your Brain Ready

Look.
Think.
Predict!



Curious
Readers
Brighter
Tomorrows

Good readers think before they read!

Taking a few minutes to look, think, and predict helps your brain make connections and get ready for the story.

1



Look at the Clues

- Look closely at the title, cover, and illustrations.
- What do you notice? What do you see?
- What details stand out to you?

Try saying:

"I notice..."

"I see..."

"I wonder about..."

2



Think About What Might Happen

- What do you think this story might be about?
- What do you predict might happen?
- What makes you think that?

Try saying:

"I think..."

"I predict..."

"My guess is..."

3



Make Connections

- Does this remind you of something you've experienced, read, or learned about?
- Have you ever had a similar experience?
- What does this story make you think about?

Try saying:

"This reminds me of..."

"I've had a similar experience..."

"This makes me think of..."

4



Ask a Question

- What is one question you hope the story will answer?
- What are you curious about?
- What do you want to find out?

Try saying:

"I wonder..."

"I'm curious about..."

"I hope to find out..."

Good questions
lead to great stories!

GOOD TIDINGS

where reading feels like fun



Good Tidings
Read-Aloud
Prompt Pack

During Reading

Pause, Notice & Think

Notice.
Wonder.
Make
Connections!



Good readers stop and think
while they read!

1

Check Your Predictions



- Is the story going the way you thought it would?
- What is happening now?
- Do you need to change your prediction?

2

Notice Important Details



- What details stand out to you?
- Why do you think the author included this part?
- What might this detail help you understand later?

3

Think About the Characters



- What is the character thinking?
- How do you think the character is feeling?
- What might the character do next?

4

Look for the Problem



- Is there a problem or challenge?
- What is causing it?
- How might the character try to solve it?

5

Make Connections



- Does this remind you of something you've experienced?
- Does it remind you of another book?
- How does this part make you think about the world around you?

6

Notice the Author's Craft



- What words or pictures really stand out?
- How do they make you feel?
- Why do you think the author wrote it this way?

7

Pause and Wonder



- What questions do you have?
- What are you wondering about right now?
- What do you hope happens next?

8

Visualize the Story



- What picture do you see in your mind?
- How does this part look, sound, or feel?
- What would you draw if you could illustrate this page?

Stories have more
to discover!

GOOD TIDINGS

where reading feels like fun

Pause Often

Good Readers

Go Deeper

Curious
Minds
Brighter
Tomorrows

Good Tidings Read-Aloud Prompt Pack

After Reading

Put the Pieces Together

Good readers think, reflect, and grow
after they read!

Think
Deeper.
Share.
Grow!



1

Retell the Story



- What happened in the story?
- Can you retell it in your own words?
- What were the most important events?

2

Talk About the Message



- What do you think the author wanted you to learn?
- What is the big idea or theme?
- How might this message apply to your own life?

3

Share Your Opinions



- What did you like about the story?
- What didn't you like?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?

4

Connect to Your Life



- Does this story remind you of something you have experienced?
- Have you ever felt like a character in the story?
- What can you learn from their choices or actions?

5

Think About the Characters



- How did the characters change or grow?
- What was your favorite character? Why?
- What would you say to a character if you could talk to them?

6

Dig a Little Deeper



- What questions do you still have?
- What surprised you?
- What would you like to find out more about?
- What might happen next?

7

Get Creative



- Draw a favorite scene from the story.
- Write a different ending.
- Create a new character.
- Make a poster, comic, or book review about the story.

8

Be a Thoughtful Reader



- What did this story teach you about yourself?
- How did this story make you feel?
- What is one thing you will remember from this story?
- How can you be a kind, curious, and brave reader?

Every story leaves
a little something behind.

GOOD TIDINGS

where reading feels like fun



Good Tidings Read-Aloud Prompt Pack

Turn and Talk

Small Conversations
Make Big Thinking!

Talk with a partner. Listen with care.
New ideas grow when we share!

Different
ideas make
a brighter
world!



1

Find a Partner



- Sit with a partner or small group.
- Take turns sharing your ideas.
- Be a good listener.
- Everyone's ideas matter!

2

Use Sentence Starters

Not sure what to say? Try one of these!

- I think...
- I wonder...
- I noticed...
- I liked...
- I didn't expect...
- This reminds me of...
- I agree because...
- I see it differently because...

Take
turns.

Be
respectful.

3

Ask Good Questions



- What do you think about...?
- Why do you think that?
- What makes you say that?
- Can you tell me more?
- What might happen next?
- How does this connect to your life?

4

Listen and Build



- Look at your partner when they're speaking.
- Show you're listening (nodding, eye contact, kind words).
- Add to their idea with, "Yes, and..."
- It's okay to have different opinions!
- Be curious and kind.

5

Share What You Learned

- What was a new idea you heard?
- Did your thinking change?
- What is one thing you'll remember?
- How did talking with a partner help you understand the story better?



6

Take It Further

- Share with the whole class if you're asked.
- Connect your ideas to other books, real life, or your own experiences.
- Keep the conversation going! Great thinking often starts with a simple conversation.

Listen.
Share.
Learn.
Grow.

Stories
bring us together
and help us see
the world in
new ways.

GOOD TIDINGS

where reading feels like fun

Kind
Conversations
Brighter
Tomorrows

Good
Tidings

Good Tidings

Prompt Cards 1

Stop, Think, and Talk!

Prompt Cards for Meaningful Read-Aloud Conversations

Cut apart the cards and keep them near your classroom library. ♥

Good Stories Spark Big Ideas!



STOP

What just happened?
Can you tell it in your own words?



THINK

What do you think will happen next?
Why do you think that?



TALK

Turn and talk.
What is one idea you want to share with your partner?



STOP

What is the most important part so far?
Why?



THINK

What does this make you wonder about?
What questions do you still have?



TALK

How does this story make you feel?
What part do you like best?



Better Readers
Brighter Thinkers
Kinder Humans



Small Conversations Make a Big Difference!



Good Tidings
where reading feels like fun



Prompt Cards 2

Good Tidings
Read-Aloud
Prompt Cards

Stop, Think, and Talk!

Different questions. Deeper thinking. Brighter readers!

Cut apart the cards and keep them near your classroom library. ♥

Think
Talk
Grow!



STOP

What details
did you notice?
What do you wonder
about?



THINK

What do you think
the character was
feeling? What makes
you think that?



TALK

Would you have
done the same thing?
Why or why not?



STOP

What was your
favorite part?
Why did you like it?



THINK

How does this story
connect to something
in your own life or
in the world around you?



TALK

If you could ask
the author one question,
what would it be?



Kind Readers

Curious Thinkers

Brighter Tomorrows ♥

Good stories
lead to great
conversations!



Good Tidings
where reading
feels like fun



Good Tidings

where reading feels like fun

Substitute Teacher Kit

Simple Ideas.
Happy Learners.
Brighter Days.

Same Kids.
New Day.
You Got This!

Curious Minds
Brighter Tomorrows

Independent Activity Pages

Meaningful Activities for
Confident, Engaged Learners

♥ Read ♥ Create ♥ Think ♥ Explore ♥ Grow

KIND
CURIOUS
CREATIVE
CAPABLE
AMAZING
YOU!

Good Ideas Start Here

Brighter Readers

Kinder Hearts

A Brighter Tomorrow

Busy Hands
Bright Minds
Happier Classrooms

Small Activities
Make a Big Difference!

Create

Imagine

Solve

Write

Explore

Be Proud

Good Stories Lead to Great People

Today You Make a Difference

- ☐ Read
- ☐ Create
- ☐ Solve
- ☐ Imagine
- ☐ Be Awesome!

Good Tidings

Story Detective

Look Closely ♥ Think Deeply ♥ Discover More!

Read ♥ Create ♥ Think ♥ Explore ♥ Grow

Good readers look for clues!



1. Character

Who is the main character (or characters) in the story? What do you know about them? How do they act? What do they want?



Character clues:

☐ kind ☐ brave ☐ funny ☐ curious
☐ helpful ☐ other: _____

2. Problem

What is the main problem in the story? What challenge does the character face?



Every story has a problem to solve!

3. Clues

What clues from the story help you understand the problem and what might happen next? Use details from the words and pictures.



Clues can be in the words, pictures, or what the character does!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

4. Solution

How is the problem solved? What happens at the end? What did the character learn?



Good stories often teach us something!

Think About It!

- ★ What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
- ★ Would you have solved the problem the same way?
- ★ What did you learn from this story?
- ★ What would you ask the character if you could talk to them?

Stories help us see the world in new ways! ♥



Good Tidings



Somebody Wanted... But... So... Then... Retelling Page

Good stories have a beginning, middle, and end!



Read

Think

Explore

Grow



Use the story to fill in each part. Then retell the story in your own words!

Somebody Wanted...



Who is the main character?
What did they want?

But...



What was the problem?
What got in the way?

So...



What did the character do?
How did they try to solve it?

Then...



What happened at the end?
How did it turn out?

Retell the Story!

Use your answers above to tell the story in your own words.
Write a short paragraph or a few sentences.

Good readers can retell stories!

Stories Stay With Us and Help Us Grow!

Read ♥ Create ♥ Think ♥ Explore ♥ Grow

Good Tidings

Three Things That Matter

Good readers notice what matters!

Find the important details. Think about why they matter!

Directions:

1. Think about the story you read.
2. Choose three important details.
3. Write each detail and explain why it matters.

Important details help us understand the bigger picture!

Read
Think
Explore
Grow

1 Important Detail #1



Why does this detail matter?

2 Important Detail #2



Why does this detail matter?

3 Important Detail #3



Why does this detail matter?

Big Picture Thinking!

How do these three details help you understand the story better?

What might the story be different without one of these details?

Small Details Make a Big Difference!

Curious Minds

Kinder Hearts

Brighter Tomorrows

Good Stories Lead to Great Thinkers!

Read ♥ Create ♥ Think ♥ Explore ♥ Grow

Good Tidings

Character Choice Investigator

Read ♥ Create ♥ Think ♥ Explore ♥ Grow

Look closely at what the character did.
Be a choice detective!

Good readers look deeper!



Story Title: _____

Character: _____

1

Choice

What did the character do?

Describe the choice the character made.

Every character makes choices!

2

Reason

Why did they make that choice?

What was the character thinking, feeling, or hoping?
What might have influenced their decision?



Think like a detective!
Look for clues in the story.

3

Result

What happened because of their choice?

How did the choice affect the character? What happened next?

Choices lead to consequences.

4

What I Would Do

What would you have done? Would you make the same choice or a different one?
Explain why.

PAUSE

THINK

CHOOSE

Different choices can lead to different outcomes!

Kind Thoughts ♥ Thoughtful Choices ♥ Brighter Tomorrows

Better Readers

Kinder Hearts

Brighter Tomorrows

Good Tidings

Word Collector

Discover New Words. Unlock New Worlds!

Find interesting or unfamiliar words while you read.
Use the context clues to figure out what they might mean!

New words are treasures waiting to be found!

Context Clues Help!

Authors give clues in the sentence to help you figure out the meaning of a new word.

Look for clues like:

- ★ other words around it
- ★ examples
- ★ a comparison (like or as)
- ★ a short explanation
- ★ what is happening in the story

1 The Word

Write the interesting or unfamiliar word.

1

2

3

4

5

2 Context Clues

What clues in the story help you figure out the meaning?

3 What I Think It Means

Write the meaning in your own words.

4 Use It!

Write a sentence using the word.

5 Word Type

Circle one.

noun verb
adjective adverb
other: _____

noun verb
adjective adverb
other: _____

noun verb
adjective adverb
other: _____

noun verb
adjective adverb
other: _____

noun verb
adjective adverb
other: _____

Think About It!

- ★ Which word was the most interesting? Why?
- ★ Which word was the hardest to figure out?
- ★ How did context clues help you?
- ★ How can learning new words make you a stronger reader?

Words take you places! ♥

Collect Words...
Grow Your Mind!

Curious Minds

Kinder Hearts

Brighter Tomorrows ♥

A new word today...
a brighter tomorrow!

Read

Think

Explore

Grow ♥

Good Tidings

The Missing Scene

Write a scene that could fit into the story!

Stories are made up of many moments.
Sometimes an important scene is left out.
Use your imagination to write a plausible scene
that could happen in the story.



Story Title: _____

Author: _____

1 Choose a Spot

Where could a missing scene fit into the story?
(At the beginning, middle, or end?)

- ☐ Beginning
- ☐ Middle
- ☐ End

2 Think It Through

What is happening in this part of the story?
What might the characters be doing, thinking, or saying?



3 Write the Scene

Write a detailed scene that could fit into the story.
Be sure it matches the characters, setting, and events.



4 Check It Fits

Does your scene make sense in the story?
How does it connect to what happens before and after?



My Missing Scene:

★ Illustrate It!

Draw a picture of your missing scene.



Think About It!

- ★ How does your scene help the story?
- ★ What does it show us about the characters?
- ★ Could there be more than one possible version?
- ★ What was the most fun part about writing this scene?



Read ♥ Imagine ♥ Write ♥ Grow



Good Tidings

Change One Thing

How would the story be different?

Stories are like puzzles. When one piece changes, the whole picture can look different!

Small changes can lead to big new stories!



1 Pick One Story Element to Change

Choose ONE thing to be different from the story.



☐ **Character**
(a different person or animal)



☐ **Problem**
(a new challenge)



☐ **Setting**
(a different place)



☐ **Solution**
(a different way to solve it)



☐ **Time**
(a different time of day, season, or year)



☐ **Ending**
(a different ending)

2

What Did You Change?

Tell what you changed and how it's different from the original story.

3

How Would It Affect the Story?

Explain how this change would affect:



The characters: _____



The setting: _____



The problem: _____



The solution: _____



The ending: _____

4

Write a New Summary

Write a short summary of your new version of the story.



Illustrate It!

Draw a picture of your new version of the story.



Think About It!

- ★ Why did you choose to change that part of the story?
- ★ What was the biggest difference in your new version?
- ★ Do you think your new version is better, worse, or just different? Why?
- ★ What did you learn about how stories work?



Different Choices ♥ New Possibilities ♥ Great Readers

Good Tidings



Draw It, Tell It

Show a Moment. Share the Story!

Choose an important, funny, surprising, or imaginative moment from the story.
Draw the moment, then explain what's happening and why it matters.



Stories are made of moments that matter!



Read

Imagine

Create

Grow



Big Ideas Start Here!



Let Your Imagination Soar!



Every great story has a moment worth remembering!



Tell About Your Moment:

What's happening in your picture? Who is there? Why did you choose this moment?

What makes it important, funny, surprising, or imaginative? Why does it matter in the story?

Curious Minds

Kinder Hearts

Brighter Tomorrows



Read Think Create Your Story Matters

Different Stories Brighter Thinkers



Good Tidings
♥

Picture First, Story Second

Let Your Imagination Lead the Way!

Draw a character in a place you wouldn't usually find them.
Then write a short story about what's happening!



Draw Your Picture Here!

Anywhere
is possible!
♥



Think About It!

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- ★ A penguin at the beach
- ★ A giraffe in a library
- ★ A robot at a birthday party
- ★ A dinosaur on a school bus
- ★ A frog in a pizza restaurant
- ★ A dog at a space camp
- ★ A cat in a castle
- ★ You in a place you've never been

Or think of your own amazing idea! ♥



Remember to Include:

- ☐ Who is this? (character)
- ☐ Where are they? (setting)
- ☐ What happened? (problem or event)
- ☐ What happens next? (solution or next part)



Write Your Story Here!



♥ Imagination can take you anywhere! ♥



Good Tidings
♥

Stories Spark Big Ideas!
♥

Need 10 More Minutes



♥ Activity Pages ♥

More time to read,
create, imagine, and be you!



Just
One More
Page...
♥



where reading feels like fun
♥

NEED 10 MORE MINUTES?

Choose one of the activities below. You only need a pencil and paper. Each activity helps you think, be creative, and make a meaningful connection to today's reading.

1 One-Minute Story

Write a tiny story containing one character, one problem, and one solution.

Keep it short but make it complete.



2 Five-Word Challenge

Choose five interesting words from today's reading and use all five in a new paragraph. Make sure your paragraph makes sense and shows you understand the words.

curious
journey
challenge
solution
inspire

3 Sketch & Caption

Draw something from the reading (a character, setting, object, event, or idea) and write a detailed caption that teaches someone about it. Your caption should explain what it is, what is happening, and why it matters.



4 Better Ending

Write a different possible ending for today's reading. Then explain what you changed and how your new ending affects the story.



5 Question the Author

Write three thoughtful questions you would ask the author about the story, characters, choices, ideas, or writing. Your questions should require more than a simple yes-or-no answer and show genuine curiosity.



6 Teach It Back

Explain today's story or lesson so clearly that an absent classmate could understand it without having been there. Include the most important information, and make sure you haven't left out anything your classmate would need to know.



7 Alphabet Hunt

Find or think of story-related words beginning with as many different letters of the alphabet as possible. You can use character traits, actions, objects, settings, feelings, vocabulary, or ideas from the reading. See how many letters you can cover from A-Z!



8 Tiny Book Review

Decide whether you would recommend today's book or reading to another student. Give your recommendation and support it with two specific reasons from the text.



1

Read Little More

Choose a book from the classroom and read quietly.

Set a goal (a few pages or a chapter)!



A few more pages can take you to a whole new adventure! ♥

Good Tidings
where reading feels like fun

2

Word Collector

Find interesting words in a book, on a poster, or around the room. Write them down and use one or more in a sentence.



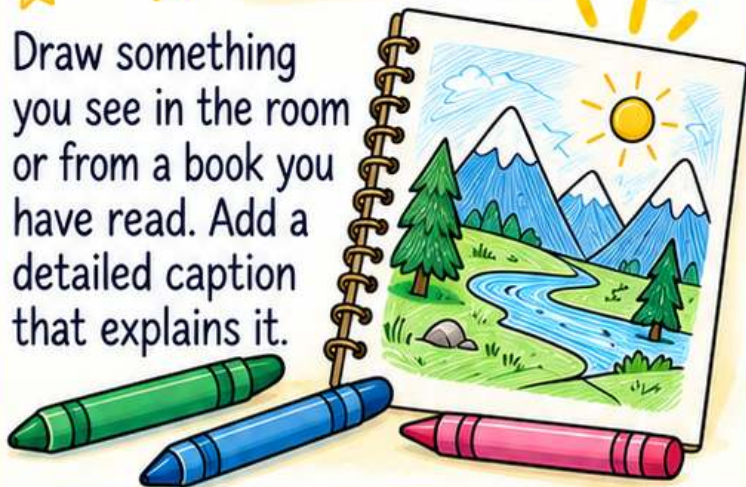
Great readers notice great words! ♥

Good Tidings
where reading feels like fun

3

Sketch Something

Draw something you see in the room or from a book you have read. Add a detailed caption that explains it.



Draw it. Explain it. Teach someone about it! ♥

Good Tidings
where reading feels like fun

4

Write a Postcard

Pretend you are a character from the book. Write a postcard to a friend, telling them what is happening, how you feel, and what might happen next.



Step into the story! ♥

Good Tidings
where reading feels like fun

5

Make a List

Make a list about anything! Ideas: things you love, places you want to visit, books to read, animals, kind people, or things you're grateful for.



Big ideas often start with a list! ❤️

6

Solve a Puzzle

Work on a classroom puzzle, brain teaser, riddle, or logic problem. Take your time and enjoy the challenge!



Think. Try. You've got this! ❤️

7

Be a Word Detective

Find an interesting or unfamiliar word in a book. Look up the meaning (if you can), and write the word in a sentence. You can also draw a picture to show what it means.



Curious minds make amazing readers! ❤️

8

Write a Story Starter

Write the beginning of a story. You can make it funny, exciting, mysterious, or anything you like! (Extra challenge: write at least 5 sentences.)



Let your imagination go! ❤️

9

Observe & Wonder

Look around the room (or look at a picture in a book). What do you notice? What do you wonder? Write 3 observations and 3 wonder questions.



Curious minds see more! ♥

10

Create Something

Make something! You can draw, design, build with paper, write a poem, invent a new gadget, or create a comic. Let your imagination lead the way!



Be creative. Be you! ♥

11

Kindness Note

Write a kind note to a classmate, teacher, or someone who helps in our school. Tell them something you appreciate about them. A few kind words can make a big difference!



Kind words brighten days! ♥

12

Quiet Think Time

Take a few minutes to think quietly. You can daydream, plan a goal, think about something you're grateful for, or just enjoy some peaceful time.



A quiet mind can do amazing things! ♥

13

Try Something New

Choose an activity you don't usually do when you finish early. It could be a new book, a different type of writing, a drawing, a puzzle, or something creative. Give it a try!



Be brave. Try something new!

14

Make a Connection

Think about today's reading. Make a connection to your own life, another book you've read, the world around you, or something you've seen or heard about. Write a few sentences (or draw) to explain your connection.



Good readers make connections!

15

Character Detective

Choose a character from your reading. Look for clues about how they feel, what they think, and why they act the way they do. Write 3 clues from the text and explain what they tell you about the character.



Good readers notice details!

16

Spread Kindness

Do something kind for someone else. You can write a kind note, draw a picture, make a bookmark, help a classmate, or leave an encouraging message. Small acts of kindness make a big difference!



Kindness always counts!



Choose Your Challenge

Pick a challenge, get creative, and make your day a little brighter!



1 Read & Respond

Choose a book, article, or short story. Write 3–5 sentences about what you read. Include one detail from the text.



2 Vocabulary Builder

Pick 5 interesting words from a book, article, or class discussion. Look up their meanings, write them down, and use each word in a sentence.



3 Story Sequence

Choose a story. Put the events in order, or draw the main parts (beginning, middle, end). You can use pictures, words, or both.



4 Retell It Your Way

Retell a story in your own words. You can write it, illustrate it, or make a comic strip.



5 Write Something New

Choose a type of writing and create something new. Be creative and do your best!

- a story
- a letter
- a poem
- a how-to
- an opinion



6 Create & Show

Make something that shows what you learned, read, or discovered. You can draw, design, build, or make a poster. Use any materials you have (with paper).



7 Think & Share

Write about a question, give your opinion, or explain your thinking. Be ready to share your ideas if time allows.



8 Help a Classmate

Be a reading buddy, share an idea, work together, or help someone with a challenge. Kindness makes the day brighter!



9 Quiet Choice

Choose a quiet activity that helps you keep learning and use your time well. (Read, write, draw, or work on an unfinished task.)



Be kind ★ Try your best ★ Make it a great day!

Good Tidings



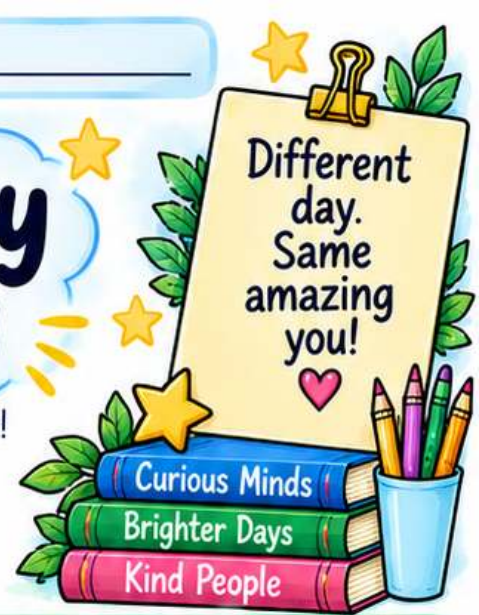
Name: _____

Date: _____

Substitute Day Reflection

Today was a little different, but you made it great!
Take a few minutes to think about your day and
share what you did, learned, or created.

Write, draw, or both! ❤️



Something I Read

Write the title and a few sentences about what you read.
What was it about? What did you learn or enjoy?



Something I Practiced

Write about a skill you practiced today.
(It could be reading, writing, math, a strategy,
something new, or something you want to get better at.)



Something I Created

Tell about something you made, designed, built,
drew, or imagined today. What inspired you?

Something I Want My Teacher to See

What are you proud of? What would you like your
teacher to know about your day?

A Picture from My Day

Draw a picture of something from today!



Good Tidings ❤️

Be proud. You did your best! ❤️

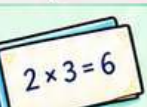


Teacher Standards & Skills Guide

Choose Your Challenge Substitute Day Activity

These activities are designed to be meaningful, engaging, and standards-aligned while giving students independent choices on a substitute day.



Activity	Skills Being Practiced	Examples (May Include)
1 Read & Respond 	- Reading comprehension - Finding and using text evidence - Written expression	- Summarizing - Identifying main ideas and details - Sharing opinions with support
2 Create a Story 	- Narrative writing - Creativity and imagination - Organization of ideas	- Sequencing events - Descriptive language - Writing a clear beginning, middle, and end
3 Build Something 	- Creativity and design - Planning and problem-solving - Communication	- Following a plan - Labeling or explaining the creation - Visual representation of ideas
4 Explore Words 	- Vocabulary development - Context clues - Word meaning and use	- Finding interesting words - Using words in a sentence - Making connections to reading
5 Make a List 	- Organizing ideas - Personal reflection - Written expression	- Generating and categorizing ideas - Using clear and complete sentences - Thinking about goals, interests, or gratitude
6 Draw & Share 	- Visual communication - Creativity - Speaking and listening	- Drawing to show understanding - Adding a caption or short explanation - Sharing ideas with others
7 Practice a Skill 	- Math practice or ELA skills - Independent work - Perseverance and goal setting	- Computational fluency - Handwriting or grammar practice - Setting a personal goal and trying your best
8 Be a Helper 	- Social-emotional learning - Responsibility - Kindness and community	- Helping a classmate - Taking care of the classroom - Showing initiative
9 Ask a Question 	- Critical thinking - Inquiry - Research and information gathering	- Generating thoughtful questions - Finding answers in a book or online - Exploring a topic of interest

A Note for Teachers

These activities are aligned with common elementary skills and learning goals, including reading comprehension, writing, vocabulary, speaking and listening, research, problem-solving, creativity, and social-emotional learning. Please match specific standards to your state and grade level requirements.

Flexible.
Meaningful.
Always a
good choice.

