

Good Tidings

BOOKS ♥ PEOPLE ♥ BRIGHTER DAYS

Curious
Readers
Brighter
Tomorrows
♥

A DIFFERENT Kind of Book Report

COMPANION PACKET

Read
Reflect
Create
Be You
♥

A
Brighter
World
Through
Books
♥

READ
EXPLORE
IMAGINE
GROW
BELONG
♥

Good
Stories
Brighter
Days
♥

- ☑ Ideas
 - ☑ Creativity
 - ☑ Confidence
 - ☑ A Kinder You
- ♥

WHERE READING FEELS LIKE FUN





A Different Kind of Book Report

A choice board of 10 creative ways kids can respond to a story — for classrooms, homework nights, and everywhere in between.

How to use this board: Let kids pick one response after finishing any book — no rules about which square, no requirement to try them all. Choice is the whole point.

1

Design a New Cover

Draw a cover that captures the book's most important moment or character.

2

Write to a Character

Send a letter with questions, advice, or feelings about what they did.

3

Make a Comic Strip

Retell a favorite scene in 4–6 panels — pictures and dialogue only.

4

Record a Video Review

Talk to the camera about the plot, a favorite part, and who'd love it.

5

Invent a New Ending

Rewrite the final chapter or send the plot in a new direction.

6

Build a Diorama

Recreate a setting in a shoebox with craft supplies.

7

Make a Wanted Poster

Describe a character's looks, personality, and "crimes" or good deeds.

8

Write a Text Convo

Imagine two characters texting — voice, tone, even emojis welcome.

9

Create a Playlist

Pick 3–5 songs that match the book's mood or big moments.

10

Act It Out

Perform a favorite scene with puppets, toys, or just voices.

Quick-Reference Planning Chart

Use this chart to match a response activity to your time, materials, and the skill you want to reinforce. All 10 work for whole-class, small-group, or independent use.

ACTIVITY	BEST FOR	MATERIALS	SKILL REINFORCED	TIME NEEDED
New Cover	K–3	Paper, markers/crayons	Identifying the most important idea, character, or setting	15–20 min
Letter to a Character	2–5	Paper, pencil (or digital doc)	Perspective-taking; forming and supporting an opinion	20–30 min
Comic Strip	1–5	Blank comic template or folded paper	Sequencing events; summarizing key moments	25–35 min
Video Review	2–5	Phone/tablet or none (can be spoken)	Oral summarizing; recommending with reasons	10–15 min
New Ending	2–5	Paper, pencil (or digital doc)	Cause and effect; understanding plot structure	20–30 min
Diorama	K–3	Shoebox, craft supplies	Setting detail; visualizing a scene	30–45 min
Wanted Poster	1–4	Paper, markers, poster template	Characterization; supporting traits with evidence	20–25 min
Text Conversation	3–5	Paper or text-bubble template	Character voice; tone and dialogue	15–20 min
Book Playlist	3–5	None (list only)	Identifying mood, tone, and emotional arc	10–15 min
Act It Out	K–4	Puppets, toys, or nothing at all	Motivation and emotion; embodied comprehension	15–20 min

Tips for the Classroom and the Kitchen Table

T For Teachers

Turn it into a real choice board

Print Page 1 as a poster or slide. Let students choose their own square after independent reading — no assigning required.

Use it for differentiation

A wanted poster and a new ending ask for different depths of thinking. Quietly steer struggling readers toward visual options and strong readers toward writing-heavy ones.

Rotate through the year

Retiring the same three response formats keeps engagement high. Aim to cycle through most of the ten across a semester.

Skip the rubric obsession

A quick “tell me about your choice” conversation often reveals more comprehension than a scored form does.

Display them proudly

Comics and wanted posters make a colorful bulletin board — seeing peers’ work sparks more book talk than any worksheet.

P For Parents

Keep it low-pressure

These aren’t homework assignments. Offer one after finishing a book and let your child say no thanks — the goal is connection, not compliance.

Join in yourself

Write your own letter to the same character, or vote on your child’s new ending versus the real one. Modeling makes it feel like play, not performance.

Save the car rides

Video reviews and playlists work beautifully as spoken activities — perfect for a drive, a walk, or dinner conversation.

Watch for the reluctant reader win

A child who resists writing may light up over acting out a scene. Follow their energy, not the list order.

Keep a keepsake box

Save the comics, wanted posters, and letters. In a few years, they become a beautiful record of what your child was reading and thinking.

"None of these ideas ask a child to prove they read the book. They ask a child to do something with the story — to keep playing in it a little longer."

GOOD TIDINGS

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