***A Menu of Reading Response Activities***

***You should have 2-3 journal entries completed per week. You should spend anywhere from 30–60 minutes a day reading for each journal entry. You should read throughout the day when you have extra time. You should have only ONE entry per page of your journal. Make sure each journal entry contains the following: the date, title of the book, author, pages read and your menu choice.***

**Choice 1: Make Music**

Write a poem, song, or rap to describe a character, the setting, the problem, the plot, the solution, or the theme of the story.

**Choice 2: Summarize**

As you read, write a 2-3 sentences summary of each paragraph or chapter.

**Choice 3: Visualize**

Draw a picture of something amazing that the author described. Show how you picture that scene in your mind. Write a short description of the scene.

**Choice 4: Text-to-Self Connection**

Write a paragraph of how something or someone in the book relates to you and your life.

**Choice 5: Prediction**

Write a few sentences about a prediction of what you think will happen in the next story. Don’t forget to use the word because to explain the reasoning behind your predictions. (Only predict in books you have not read.)

**Choice 6: Question**

Write 5 questions you have about the reading. Try to answer the questions as you read. Or, pretend you are a teacher. **Write** and **answer** 5 questions you think a teacher should ask.

**Choice 7: I Prompts**

Choose 4 I Prompts to answer. Use facts from the text to support your ideas.

I noticed

I discovered

I was surprised

I could understand

I couldn’t understand

I agree

I disagree

I felt

I enjoyed

I liked

I didn’t like

I would change

I would add

I wish

I would prefer

I expected

I didn’t’ expect

I remembered

I had forgotten

I couldn’t believe

I wasn’t sure

I was scared

I thought it was funny

I was excited

I thought it was unusual

I thought it was interesting

I predict (next chapter)

***Additional Suggested Response Questions***

**Choice 8: Author**

**Complete a journal entry about the author. You can do research to learn about them. You can also answer one or more of the following questions in paragraph form:**

Why do you think the author wrote this book?

What is the author trying to tell us?

What did the author have to know in order to write this book?

What did the author do to hook the reader in the beginning of the book?

What would you ask the author if he/she were here? Why?

**Choice 9: Characters**

**Complete a journal entry about the main characters. Choose one of the following?**

Write a one to two sentence description of each character. (Label as protagonist or antagonist.)

Do the characters seem “alive” and believable? Which ones? Why?

Do any characters change throughout the story? What helps them change?

Are any characters like others you have “met” in other books or in real life? Which ones? Why?

**Choice 10: Plot**

**Complete a journal entry about what happened in the story?**

Sequence events in the story.

Were you able to predict the ending? How? Why or why not?

What was the most important part of the story? Why?

What other ways might the story have ended?

What is the main idea of the story? What was the author’s message?

**Choice 11: Setting**

**Answer all of the questions about the setting of the story in paragraph form.**

Where and when does the story take place? How do you know?

Do you know a place like the one in the book? Where is it? Describe it.

**Choice 12: Style of the Book (This may take you more than a week.)**

**How does the author keep you interested in the story? What special words or lovely language does the author use to keep you engaged in reading? Keep a running list of one or more of the following?**

Strong Verbs

Vivid Adjectives

Robust Vocabulary (Suggested Word of the Days)

Onomatopoeia

Similes/Metaphors

Alliteration

Independent Read Guidelines

**Journals**

* You should be completing 2 – 3 journal entries per week.
* You should spend a half hour to an hour reading for each individual journal entry.
* You should be reading EACH and EVERY day: During independent reading, when you have extra time, after you complete your D.L.R., or at home.
* Complete only **ONE** written entry **PER** page of your journal to keep it organized. (Use front and back)
* Please include the DATE, TITLE OF BOOK, BOOK’S AUTHOR, PAGES READ, and the READING ACTIVITY selected for the day. Please label all areas clearly.
* If you are not in class for an independent read day, please identify where you were at that time. Ex: PEN, Reading Lab, Instrument Lesson, Absent, etc.
* Please follow the criteria found in your journals to complete each entry.
* Be sure to do your best work to complete your journal. You will be graded on the quality of your work.
* Books will be selected on your own. Depending on the length of the book, you should be reading 3 or more books per marking period.
* Please add the name and author of any books read to your reading log each time you select a new book.