

## Key Stage 1 Reading Journal Activities

Here are some ideas for activities you could try based on your reading book. The activities have been sorted in to different areas – try a range of activities.



### **Explain the meanings of words.**

- Find 5 interesting words in your book. Write down what each one means. Now think of your own sentences that use the words.
- Make a list of smaller words hiding inside smaller words in your book. E.g. Chalkboard = chalk + board, together = to, get, her
- Find 5 adjectives in your book. Now try to use them in your own sentences
- Make a list of words from your book that are hard to spell. Highlight the tricky part in each word.
- Find 5 adverbs in your book. Put them in alphabetical order.
- List any key words or phrases from the book.
- Draw and label a picture of a setting from your story. Copy words and phrases from the book that help describe the setting.

### **Identify key details**

- List all the characters that appear in the story.
- Write some questions about events in the story. See if a friend or family member can find the answers to your questions by using the book.
- Choose one character from the story. Find three things the author says about this character.
- Draw a picture of your favourite character. Label it with words the author uses to describe the character.
- Create a list of key words that you could use to make a glossary for your book. Now create a glossary with explanations of what each word means.
- Write down some facts you have learned from your book.
- Make a fact file about a topic from your book.
- Make up some questions about your book. Give them to a friend and see if they can use the book to answer them.
- Create a true/false quiz about the book. Try the quiz out on a friend or family member.

### **Identify and explain the sequence of events**

- List all the events in your story in the correct order.
- Draw a story mountain or story map to show the events in the book.
- Draw a cartoon strip of the main events in the story.
- Sequence events from the story.
- Re-write the story in your own words.
- Make a timeline of events from the story.

### **Make inferences**

- Imagine you are one of the characters from the book. Write a diary entry about an event from the book from that character's point of view.
- How do you think a character was feeling at a key point in the story? Write their thoughts in a thought bubble.
- Write down three questions you would want to ask a character from the book. Now try to write their answers.
- Draw an outline of a character from the book. On the inside choose words that tell us about their character, on the outside write words that tell us about their appearance. Use the words to write a character description.
- Pick one character from the story, write a list of things you think they would like or dislike; e.g. favourite food, colour, t.v. programme etc. Find things in the text that support why you've made these choices about your character.
- Write three alternative titles for the book. Explain why you have come up with these titles.

### **Making predictions**

- After finishing your book, think what would happen if there were an extra chapter; summarise what would happen in this chapter.
- Write a blurb for the book.
- Think of what might have happened before the story took place. Write this in your own words.
- Look at the front cover. What do you think is going to happen in this book?