Thinking Stems

Being an Active Reader

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| **A. Making Connections:**   1. This reminds me of… 2. An experience I have had like that… 3. This reminds me of the book \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because… 4. How can I live differently because this book has been a part of my life? | **B. Asking Questions:**   1. I wonder… 2. How come… 3. Why… 4. I’m confused… 5. What if… 6. I don’t understand… |
| **C. Visualizing/Sensory Images:**   1. In my mind I picture \_\_\_\_\_\_ when I read \_\_\_\_\_... 2. I visualized… 3. I can see… 4. I can taste/hear/smell/feel… | **D. Inferring/Predicting:**   1. I think… 2. Maybe this means… 3. I’m guessing… 4. This allows me to assume… 5. I predict \_\_\_\_\_ because… |
| **E. Summarizing:**   1. So far this book is mostly about… 2. The main ideas in this book are… 3. Some important events are \_\_\_\_\_ because… 4. First….Next….Then….Finally | **F. Synthesizing:**   1. I’m thinking that… 2. At first I thought \_\_\_\_\_ but now I’m thinking \_\_\_\_\_ because… 3. I’m changing my thinking again because… 4. I think the lesson or theme is \_\_\_\_\_ because… 5. These events have caused me to believe… |
| **G. Author’s Message:**   1. What is this story really about? 2. What does this story say about the world? 3. Whose story is being told? 4. What are the themes I have been identifying so far? 5. What is the lesson of this book? | **H. Evaluating:**   1. I agree with \_\_\_\_\_ because… 2. I don’t think … 3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **I. Setting (Time and Place):**   1. This story takes place… 2. Something I noticed about the setting… 3. I would/would not like to live during this time period/in this place because… 4. The author used \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to describe the setting… | **J. Characters:**   1. If I were (character’s name) I would… 2. The character that interests me most is \_\_\_\_\_ because… 3. A character that really changed in the story was \_\_\_\_\_ because he/she … 4. I like/don’t like (character’s name) because… |
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| **K. Plot:**   1. I think a problem in this story is… 2. I think (character’s name) will try to solve this problem by… 3. An event that I think might happen next is… 4. Another way this story could have ended is… 5. Predict how the character might overcome an obstacle. | **L. Language:**   1. I like the way the author described… 2. \_\_\_\_\_ is a new word for me. I think it might mean \_\_\_\_\_ because… 3. An interesting (word, phrase, or sentence) that I noticed … 4. \_\_\_\_\_ is one of my favorite passages because…   \*Record page numbers where you noticed language! |
| **M. Author:**   1. I think the author wrote this book because… 2. It’s interesting how the author… 3. Something I noticed about the author’s style… 4. I’d like to read another book by this author because… 5. I do/don’t like this author’s writing style because… | **N. Illustrator:**   1. If I were the illustrator of this book I would change/draw… 2. I could draw \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a symbol for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because… 3. Illustrations would/wouldn’t make this story more interesting because… |
| **O. Non-Fiction Prompts:**   1. Something that interests me about this topic is… 2. Something new I learned… 3. I want to learn more about… 4. Some questions I still have about the topic… 5. The author made the topic interesting by…. 6. An illustration or picture that interested me the most was \_\_\_\_\_ because… 7. Something I don’t understand… | **P. Open – ended Prompts:**   1. If I could change one part of the selection, I would change \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because … 2. I wish… 3. Something that surprised me was… 4. As I read this selection, I felt \_\_\_\_\_ because… 5. I liked/didn’t like when \_\_\_\_\_\_ because… 6. My favorite part was when \_\_\_\_\_ because… 7. I noticed… 8. I think the genre of this selection is \_\_\_\_\_ because… |