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…
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| **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…
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| **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…
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| **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. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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| **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…
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| **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…
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