

READING
MAKES ME
HAPPY



READING

journal



LET'S
READ

A COMPLETE
READING
CURRICULUM
FOR GRADES 2-5



HOW TO USE THIS JOURNAL

Welcome to the *Reading Journal*! Have you ever thought that reading would be so much more fun if you could PICK the books you are reading? Well, this reading curriculum was designed to help you think outside the box. YOU get to make up your own reading curriculum, and it's going to be a blast!

The *Reading Journal* contains 28 half-page lessons (in the form of graphic organizers) to help you think deeper about the text. We will cover comprehension, story elements, vocabulary study, compare/contrast, and much more. We will also look at stories in light of God's Word.

This journal includes enough lessons to cover 180 days of school. We've purposely repeated the graphic organizers to help reinforce skills, but don't worry. You won't even notice the repeats because you'll be on a different book by then anyway!

Which books should you use?

That's up to you! We have included a list of our suggestions, but you can read anything that interests you: stories, biographies, how-to books, fairy tales, science books, or anything else your mind can think of!

Each day after you finish reading, open your journal and respond. You'll want to add the title of the book, how much you read, and then fill in the details. You can use one lesson for each book, one for each chapter, or even one for every few pages. Just do one lesson (half of the page) each day after you finish reading.

There are two kinds of books: fiction and nonfiction. Fiction books are creative stories that are made up. When you read books like this, look for the navy-colored lessons. Nonfiction books are factual. Nonfiction books can be a true story (like a biography) or a collection of facts (like a book about sea turtles). When you read books like this, look for the teal blue-colored sections. Some of the lessons in this book can be used with ANY book! Those are orange. If you are reading a book and the next lesson isn't a good fit, just skip it and come back to that lesson next time.

Happy reading!

FOR WISDOM WILL COME INTO YOUR HEART,
AND KNOWLEDGE WILL BE PLEASANT TO YOUR SOUL;
DISCRETION WILL WATCH OVER YOU, UNDERSTANDING WILL GUARD YOU.
PROVERBS 2:10-11

SUGGESTED READING LIST

ELEMENTARY PICTURE BOOKS

- ☐ *A is for Adam: the Gospel from Genesis*
BY KEN & MALLY HAM
- ☐ *A King for Brass Cobweb*
BY DAWN WATKINS
- ☐ *A Little Boy After God's Own Heart*
BY JIM & ELIZABETH GEORGE
- ☐ *A Little Girl After God's Own Heart*
BY ELIZABETH GEORGE
- ☐ *Benjamin's Sling*
BY EILEEN BERRY
- ☐ *Big Thoughts for Little Thinkers series*
BY JOEY ALLEN
- ☐ *Brave Young Knight*
BY KAREN KINGSBURY
- ☐ *Dinosaurs for Little Kids*
BY KEN HAM
- ☐ *Farmer Dillo series*
BY JESSE ADAMS
- ☐ *God Gave Us Fathers and Mothers*
BY REBECCA NEWSWANGER
- ☐ *God's Wisdom for Little Boys*
BY JIM & ELIZABETH GEORGE
- ☐ *God's Wisdom for Little Girls*
BY ELIZABETH GEORGE
- ☐ *Good News for Little Hearts series*
BY VARIOUS AUTHORS
- ☐ *Heroes for Young Readers series*
BY MELOCHE & POLLARD
- ☐ *If Everybody Did*
BY JO ANN STOVER
- ☐ *Ivan Becomes a Hero*
BY LINDA ROSSETTI BROCATO
- ☐ *Molly Helps Mother*
BY LAURA CLAY

- ☐ *My Heart—Christ's Home Retold for Children*
BY ROBERT BOYD MUNGER
WITH CAROLYN NYSTROM
- ☐ *Once in Blueberry Dell*
BY DAWN L. WATKINS
- ☐ *Silent Sally*
BY ERIC WALLS
- ☐ *The Attributes of God for Kids*
BY LYDIA WHITE
- ☐ *The Children's Character Building Collection*
BY DENNIS GUNDERSEN
- ☐ *The Door of Salvation*
BY KEN HAM
- ☐ *The Harbor Light*
BY ERIC WALLS
- ☐ *The Hedge of Thorns (Illustrated)*
BY JOHN CARROL
- ☐ *The Moon Is Always Round*
BY JONATHAN GIBSON
- ☐ *The Princess and the Kiss*
BY JENNIE BISHOP
- ☐ *The True Princess*
BY ANGELA HUNT
- ☐ *They Didn't Use Their Heads*
BY JO ANN STOVER
- ☐ *Things My Father Taught Me Through Sports...Playing The Game Of Baseball*
BY CHRIS & KIMBERLY MAIOCCO
- ☐ *Things My Father Taught Me Through Sports...Playing The Game Of Football*
BY CHRIS & KIMBERLY MAIOCCO
- ☐ *Trusty and Ingrid Fibster*
BY DEBBIE HAMBY
- ☐ *Trusty Faces His Fear*
BY DEBBIE HAMBY
- ☐ *Trusty Gets Off Track*
BY DEBBIE HAMBY
- ☐ *Trusty Meets Bully Blare*
BY DEBBIE HAMBY
- ☐ *Trusty Tries to Fly*
BY DEBBIE HAMBY
- ☐ *Trusty Turns Green*
BY DEBBIE HAMBY

- ☐ *Trusty: Tried and True*
BY MARK & DEBBIE HAMBY
- ☐ *When I Am Afraid*
BY SALLY MICHAEL
- ☐ *Why Do I Cry?*
BY EDITH WHITMER

EARLY CHAPTER BOOKS

- ☐ *A Faithful Boy's Influence*
BY AUNT FRIENDLY
- ☐ *A Question of Yams*
BY GLORIA REPP
- ☐ *A Ram for Isaac*
BY GINNY MERRITT
- ☐ *Bible Alive series*
BY CARINE MACKENZIE
- ☐ *Bible Wise series*
BY CARINE MACKENZIE
- ☐ *Buttercup Hill*
BY EILEEN M. BERRY
- ☐ *Circle C Beginnings series*
BY SUSAN K. MARLOW
- ☐ *Goldtown Beginnings series*
BY SUSAN K. MARLOW
- ☐ *Haiku on Your Shoe*
BY EILEEN M. BERRY
- ☐ *Happy Hearts*
BY RUTH K. HOBBS
- ☐ *Helping Hands*
BY RUTH K. HOBBS (COMPILER)
- ☐ *Hidden Heroes series*
BY REBECCA DAVIS
- ☐ *I Wonder*
BY RUTH K. HOBBS (COMPILER)
- ☐ *Jenny Wren*
BY DAWN L. WATKINS
- ☐ *Little Lights series*
BY CATHERINE MACKENZIE
- ☐ *Little Sunbeams series*
BY RACHEL NIGHSWANDER
- ☐ *Looking for Home*
BY EILEEN M. BERRY
- ☐ *Mice of the Herring Bone series*
BY TIM DAVIS
- ☐ *Passport to the World: Your A to Z Guided Language Tour*
BY CRAIG FROMAN



- ☐ *Pulling Together*
BY DAWN L. WATKINS
- ☐ *That Little Voice in Your Head: Learning About Your Conscience*
BY ANDY NASELLI
- ☐ *The Answers Book for Kids series*
BY KEN HAM
- ☐ *The Barber Who Wanted to Pray*
BY R. C. SPROUL
- ☐ *The Cul-de-sac Kids series*
BY BEVERLY LEWIS
- ☐ *The Hidden Village*
BY BONNIE ROSE HUDSON
- ☐ *The Knight's Map*
BY R. C. SPROUL
- ☐ *The Miller Family series*
BY MILDRED A. MARTIN
- ☐ *The Ology: Ancient Truths Ever New*
BY MARTY MACHOWSKI
- ☐ *The Work of Your Hand: Fingerprints, God, and You!*
BY JENNIFER RIVERA
- ☐ *Three Can Be Friends*
BY MARY BETH MARTIN

ELEMENTARY CHAPTER BOOKS

- ☐ *A Boy After God's Own Heart*
BY JIM & ELIZABETH GEORGE
- ☐ *A Girl After God's Own Heart*
BY ELIZABETH GEORGE
- ☐ *A Horse Called Willing*
BY REBECCA MARTIN
- ☐ *Adventures in the American Revolution series*
BY SUSAN OLASKY
- ☐ *Adventures of an Arctic Missionary series*
BY GLORIA REPP
- ☐ *Choose Your Journey series*
BY ELIZABETH RAUM
- ☐ *Chosen Daughters series*
BY VARIOUS AUTHORS
- ☐ *Christian Heroes: Then & Now series*
BY JANET & GEOFF BENGE
- ☐ *Circle C Stepping Stones series*
BY SUSAN K. MARLOW
- ☐ *Crimebusters, Inc. series*
BY MILLY HOWARD
- ☐ *Dinosaurs for Kids*
BY KEN HAM
- ☐ *Dragons: Legends and Lore of Dinosaurs*
BY BODIE HODGE, LAURA WELCH
- ☐ *Frances Ridley Havergal: A Poet for the King*
BY EILEEN M. BERRY
- ☐ *Goldtown Adventures series*
BY SUSAN K. MARLOW
- ☐ *Grandma's Attic series*
BY ARLETA RICHARDSON
- ☐ *Home on the Blue Ridge*
BY PABLO YODER
- ☐ *Home on the Rock Pile*
BY PABLO YODER
- ☐ *I Really, Really, Really Want Answers About Noah!*
BY RUTH CARTER
- ☐ *Jack the Conqueror*
BY C. E. BOWEN

- ☐ *Jungle Doctor series*
BY PAUL WHITE
- ☐ *Light Keepers Boys series*
BY IRENE HOWAT
- ☐ *Light Keepers Girls series*
BY IRENE HOWAT
- ☐ *Little Britches*
BY RALPH MOODY
- ☐ *Moody Family series*
BY SARAH MAXWELL
- ☐ *Shield*
BY DAWN L. WATKINS
- ☐ *Sisters in Time series*
BY VARIOUS AUTHORS
- ☐ *Sugar Creek Gang series*
BY PAUL HUTCHENS
- ☐ *Teddy's Button*
BY AMY LE FEUVRE
- ☐ *The Basket of Flowers*
BY CHRISTOPH VON SCHMID
- ☐ *The Imagination Station series*
BY HERING, MCCUSKER, ET AL
- ☐ *The Light Princess*
BY GEORGE MACDONALD
- ☐ *The Sowers series*
BY ALLEN, WITTER, ET AL
- ☐ *The Truth Chronicles series*
BY TIM CHAFFEY & JOE WESTBROOK
- ☐ *The Window in the Wall*
BY GINNY MERRITT
- ☐ *The Young Refugees series*
BY ED DUNLOP
- ☐ *Trailblazer Books series*
BY DAVE & NETA JACKSON



A white rabbit wearing blue-rimmed glasses and a brown cat are sitting together, reading a large blue book titled 'FAIRY TALES'. The rabbit is on the left, holding the book, and the cat is on the right, also holding it. The book has a yellow spine and a yellow bookmark. The background is a simple orange and white striped pattern.

DATE:

RATING:

☆☆☆☆☆

★★★★★

This book is so _____ that
I must tell _____ about it.

4

DATE:

RATING:

☆☆☆☆☆

★★★★★

Write or draw a different ending to the story.



BOOK TIME

ANY Book

5

BOOK TITLE:

PAGES READ TODAY:

DATE:

RATING:

☆☆☆☆☆

WORD STUDY

Write 3 verbs from today's reading.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Write 3 nouns from today's reading.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Write 3 adjectives from today's reading.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Draw one

Draw one

Draw one

ANY Book

6

BOOK TITLE:

PAGES READ TODAY:

DATE:

RATING:

☆☆☆☆☆

FACT OR FICTION?

Is this book fact or fiction? Write three clues that help you to know the answer.

Clue #1 _____

Clue #2 _____

Clue #3 _____



The book is

☐ FACT

☐ FICTION

NEVER STOP READING



Nonfiction

9

BOOK TITLE:

PAGES READ
TODAY:

DATE:

RATING:



GET INFORMED

Record in each column as you read.

Facts

Questions I Have

Answers & Responses



ANY Book

10

BOOK TITLE:

PAGES READ
TODAY:

DATE:

RATING:



In Philippians 4:8, the Bible tells us exactly what kinds of things we should think about. Check off the things below that describe this book.

☐ TRUE ☐ HONORABLE ☐ JUST ☐ PURE ☐ LOVELY

☐ COMMENDABLE ☐ EXCELLENT ☐ WORTHY OF PRAISE

Tell if you would recommend this book and why.