

Grades 3-6+

Aligned to CCSS

CREATIVE BOOK PROJECTS



- 15 ready-to-use projects your students will love!
- Detailed student handouts and grading rubrics.
- Use with any book!



Creative Book Projects

Each of these 15 ready-to-use Book Project includes a detailed instruction handout for students and a grading rubric (printed two per page to save paper).

Often teachers assign one project per month. Although it is fun to let students choose their own projects, if you have them all do the same one, you will have a nice display. Many of these projects would be enhanced by an oral presentation.

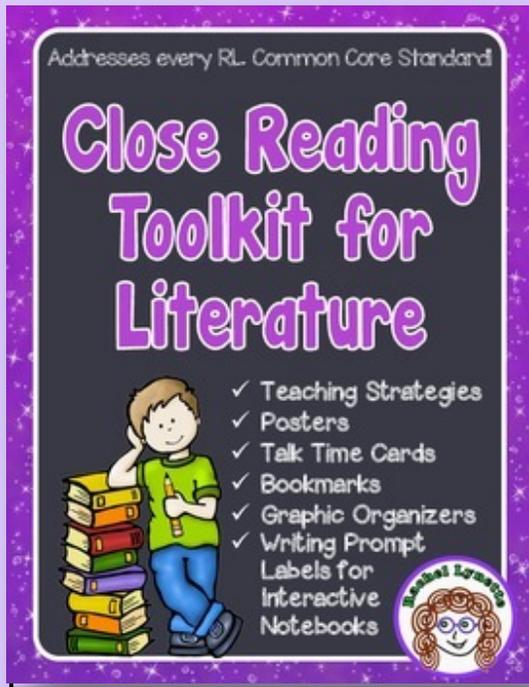
The grading rubrics are intentionally simple with no set grading scale since each teacher has his or her own point/grading system. You could put the total possible score for each category in the corner of each grading box and then write in what the student actually got. It can also be helpful to give students a copy of the rubric with the instructions handout.

The Common Core Standards addressed are written out by grade level for easy reference. Please be aware that not every standard applies to every project.

Use this chart as a printing guide (Handouts are even, rubrics are odd)

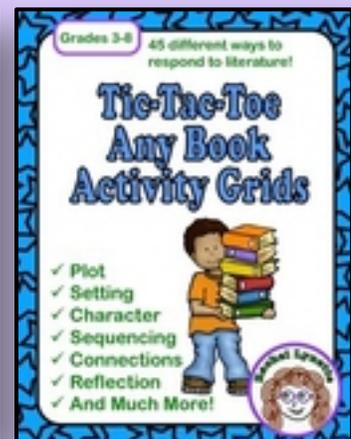
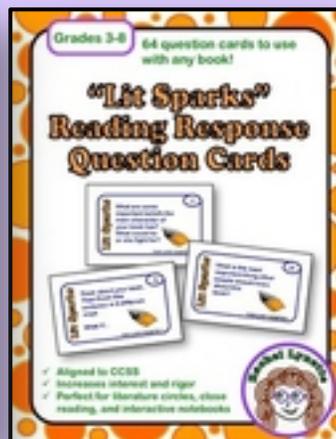
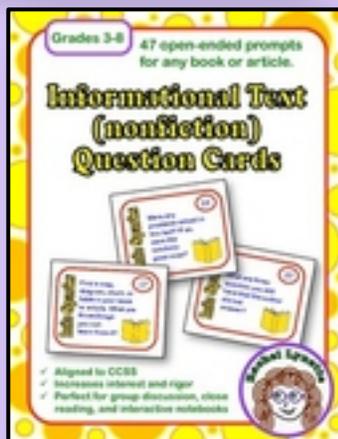
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Thank you so very much for purchasing this resource! If you are happy with this toolkit, you may also want to pick up the [Close Reading Toolkit for Literature](#), will work with any fictional text.

Here are some more reading resources:



The best way to stay updated on new products and sales is to [follow me on TpT](#).



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Common Core Standards

Grade 3

Key Ideas and Details

- **RL.3.1.** Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
- **RL.3.2.** Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.
- **RL.3.3.** Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.

Craft and Structure

- **RL.3.4.** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
- **RL.3.5.** Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.
- **RL.3.6.** Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- **RL.3.7.** Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

Production and Distribution of Writing

- **W.3.6.** With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

Grade 4

Key Ideas and Details

- **RL.4.1.** Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- **RL.4.2.** Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.
- **RL.4.3.** Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

- **RL.4.7.** Make connections between the text of a story or drama and a visual or oral presentation of the text, identifying where each version reflects specific descriptions and directions in the text.

Grade 4 (continued)

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- **W.4.9.** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
 - Apply *grade 4 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., a character’s thoughts, words, or actions].”).

Grade 5

Key Ideas and Details

- **RL.5.1.** Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- **RL.5.2.** Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.
- **RL.5.3.** Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- **W.5.9.** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
 - Apply *grade 5 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or a drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., how characters interact]”).

Grade 6

Key Ideas and Details

- **RL.6.1.** Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- **RL.6.2.** Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

Craft and Structure

- **RL.6.5.** Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- **W.6.9.** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
 - Apply *grade 6 Reading standards* to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres [e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories] in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics”).

Book in a Box

The Project

Decorate a box to represent the book and fill it with objects that represent different parts of the book.



The Details

- You can use a shoebox, oatmeal canister, coffee can or other similarly sized container for this project.
- Decorate your box to go with the book. You can draw pictures yourself or use pictures from magazines or the internet. Be sure to include the title and author of the book on the box as well as your name.
- Find at least 8 different objects. You can use pictures if the object you want to use is too big to fit inside your box.
- For each object, make a note card that includes the name of the object at the top and a paragraph about how the object is and important part of the book.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, keep a list of ideas for objects that you might want to use for this project.
- ✓ If you use pictures, glue them onto cardboard backings to make them more durable and appealing.
- ✓ Try to find at least one object for each chapter of the book.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Book Timeline

The Project

Use words and pictures to make a timeline of the important events in the book.



The Details

- Include at least 10 important events from the book.
- Each event should include a title that explains the event and a picture. Pictures may be drawn or printed.
- Your timeline should include dates if they are known.
- Include the title and author of the books above your timeline.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, keep a list of ideas for important events to include on your timeline.
- ✓ Your timeline will be long. You may need to use butcher paper or tape several sheets of construction paper together.
- ✓ Use a ruler or yardstick to make your timeline straight.
- ✓ To keep your project neat, you may want to create each entry on a separate piece of paper and then glue them to the correct places on your timeline.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Shoebox Diorama

The Project

Create a shoebox diorama of an important scene from the book.



The Details

- Use a shoebox set on its side to create your scene
- Use small objects such as toys, construction paper, and clay to create your scene. Be sure to decorate the inside walls of your box.
- The title and author of the book should be displayed somewhere on the outside of the box.
- Write or type a paragraph about your scene. Explain what is happening in the scene and why it is important to the book. You can glue your paragraph to the box or leave it separate.

Tips for Success

- ✓ You can place the lid under the box to create more space for your scene.
- ✓ Include details in your scene to make it look more realistic.
- ✓ You can make people and animals from clay, wire, or cardboard or you can use small toys.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Collage Book Project

The Project

Create a collage using pictures that represent important parts of the book.



The Details

- Use a large piece of poster board for your collage
- Make sure the title and author of the book are displayed prominently on your collage.
- Include at least 15 pictures. You can use pictures that you cut from magazines, printout from the internet, or draw yourself.
- On a separate piece of paper, write a descriptive title for each picture that you included and a sentence or two about why it was important to the book. For example, if you read one of the *Harry Potter* books, you could include a picture of a lightning bolt and write about why Harry has that mark on his forehead.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, keep a list of important characters, events, and objects to use in your collage.
- ✓ Remember that in a collage, pictures overlap a bit on the edges.
- ✓ Be sure to glue the edges and corners down carefully to make your collage look neat.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Movie Poster Book Project

The Project

Pretend the book is going to be made into a movie. Create a movie poster to promote the movie.



The Details

- Use a large piece of poster board for your poster.
- Your poster should include the following elements:
 - The title of the book in large letters and the author of the book.
 - A picture of an important scene from the book (do not duplicate the front cover of the book.)
 - A brief summary of the book, that will make people want to see the movie, but does not give too much away.
 - The names of the actors that will play the main characters (you can use real actors or you can make up names.)
 - 2–3 brief comments from critics (you can make these up.)

Tips for Success

- ✓ Look at movie posters, DVD covers, and advertisements to get ideas.
- ✓ Plan out your poster first so you will have room for everything.
- ✓ Use bright colors.
- ✓ You can write directly on the poster or type the elements out on the computer and cut out and glue the printouts to your poster board.

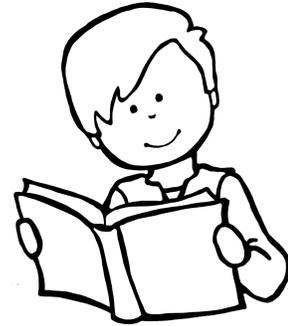
Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Graphic Chapter Book Project

The Project

Choose a chapter from the book and present it as a graphic novel (comic strip style).



The Details

- Present your graphic chapter in book format with a front cover, several pages and a back cover.
- The front cover should include the title of the book and chapter, name of the author, and a large picture of an important scene.
- The pages should tell the story in frames with pictures, captions, and thought and speech bubbles.
- The back cover should include an *About the Author* paragraph about you (not the author of the book).

Tips for Success

- ✓ Try to choose a chapter that will not be too hard to draw, with several different scenes and characters.
- ✓ Plan your graphic novel out ahead of time. Decide what will go in each frame and on each page before you begin to draw and write.
- ✓ Consider using a computer to make the comic frames. You could make a chart for the frames or use the *shapes* tool.
- ✓ You do not have to include all the dialogue in the chapter – just enough to tell the story.
- ✓ Be sure you accurately reflect the settings and characters. If the author says the main character has curly hair, draw her that way.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Main Character Book Project

The Project

Make a 3-D model of the main character of the book and write an interview with the character.



The Details

- Use clay, wire, fabric, Paper Mache, or another medium to make a realistic model of the main character of the book.
- Write 8 questions that an interviewer might ask your main character. For example, if you read *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* you might ask questions like, "How did you feel when you found the last Golden Ticket?" and "Why did you decide to take Grandpa Joe to the chocolate factory?"
- Answer each question writing in the voice of the character.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, write down questions that you might want to use for your interview.
- ✓ Try to make your questions open-ended so that they take more than a word or two to answer. For example, instead of asking, "Was it hard to be so poor?" it would be better to ask, "What were some of the ways that being poor was hard on your family?"
- ✓ Try to make the answers to the interview questions sound like the main character. If there is a phrase the character repeats often, use it in the answers. If the character speaks with an accent, then try to write using that accent.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Setting Book Project

The Project

Make a detailed map of an important setting from the book.



The Details

- Use a large piece of paper or poster board to make your map.
- Draw your map as if you were looking down on the area from above. If you use symbols, be sure and include a key.
- Label at least 6 important places on your map.
- Be sure to color your map.
- On a separate piece of paper, write the name of each place you labeled and then write 2 to 3 sentences telling why the place is important to the story.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, write down the names of places you might want to include on your map.
- ✓ Plan out your map before you begin to draw it. Use light pencil lines first. Colored pencils work well for coloring a map.
- ✓ You can label your important places by writing on the map or you can type or write them on small strips of paper and glue them to your map.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Mobile Book Project

The Project

Create a mobile using the four story elements of your book.



The Details

- Your mobile will have 5 parts: title and author, setting, characters, plot, and theme.
- Use the title and the author to decorate the part of your mobile that the other parts will hang from.
- For each part, find one or more small objects or pictures to represent that part of the story.
- For each object or picture, make a 3x5 note with a paragraph explaining why that object or picture is important to the story.
- Tie or tape the object and the note card to a piece of string or thread and hang it on your mobile. You can have several objects and note cards on one string – for example, if your story has 3 main characters, you could have 3 objects and 3 cards on one string. Use a different string for each story element for a total of 4.

Tips for Success

- ✓ A wire hanger makes a good mobile. A stick will also work or pair of sticks tied to together in a cross.
- ✓ If you use pictures, glue them to a cardboard backing. You could put two pictures back to back.
- ✓ Try to place your strings so that your mobile balances evenly.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Scrapbook Book Project

The Project

Pretend you are the main character of the book. Make a scrapbook with items and pictures that are important to your life and to the story.



The Details

- Make your book at least five pages long.
- Include at least 20 items and/or pictures.
- For each item or picture, include a caption explaining what it is and why it is important.
- Decorate the front cover. Be sure to include the name of the main character.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, keep a list of ideas for things to include in your scrapbook. For example, if you read *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, you might include: A picture of your family, the Golden Ticket, a Wonka Bar Wrapper, a picture of an Oompa Loompa, a list with the names of the other children who got to go on the tour etc.
- ✓ One way to organize your scrapbook is to do a page for each chapter.
- ✓ You can get pictures from magazines and the internet, or you can draw them, or take pictures with a camera and print them out.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

PowerPoint Book Project

The Project

Make a PowerPoint presentation about the book.



The Details

- Your presentation must include the following 7 slides:
 - Slide 1: Introduction with title and author of the book
 - Slide 2: Setting of the book (include description)
 - Slide 3: Main character (include description)
 - Slide 4: Supporting characters (include descriptions)
 - Slide 5: Summary of the plot
 - Slide 6: Your opinion of the book (short book review)
 - Slide 7: Your favorite part of the book
- Each slide should include:
 - A title
 - A background
 - Text and pictures where appropriate.
 - Animation
- You may also want to include sound effects, transitions, hotlinks and buttons.

Tips for Success

- ✓ It is okay to design one background to use on all your slides.
- ✓ Vary your animations to make your presentation more exciting.
- ✓ It is fine to include extra slides if appropriate.
- ✓ Remember to include meaningful text for each slide.

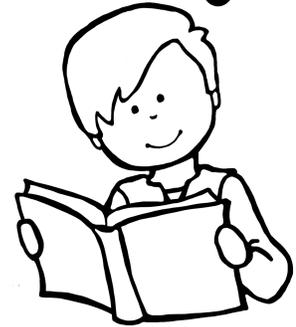
Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Glossary and Word Search Book Project

The Project

Make a glossary for some of the interesting words in the book. Then create a word search with those words.



The Details

- Choose 10 interesting words from the book. For each word, create a glossary entry. Each entry must include:
 - The word and the page number in the book where you found it.
 - A dictionary definition.
 - An original sentence using the word.
- On another sheet of paper, create a word search that includes all 10 words.
- Include a title page with the title of the book, the author and an illustration.

Tips for Success

- ✓ As you read the book, write down words that you might want to use. Don't forget to also write down the page number where you found each word.
- ✓ Many words have several definitions. You only need to use the one that applies to the way the word was used in your book.
- ✓ Use graph paper to make your word search. Begin by putting in your ten words, longest words first. Then fill the empty boxes with random letters.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Board Game Book Project

The Project

Create a board game based on your book.



The Details

- Your board game should incorporate the setting, characters, and plot of your book. Your game should include:
 - A board that is used to play the game. Include the title of the book and the author somewhere on the board.
 - Markers, cards, spinner, dice, and anything else needed to play the game.
 - Instructions explaining how the game is played.

Tips for Success

- ✓ Poster board makes a good game board. You could also use the inside of a large file folder.
- ✓ Be sure to plan your game board out before you begin drawing.
- ✓ The easiest way to incorporate parts of the story is to include them on the board. Players can advance spaces for good things that happen and go back spaces for bad things.
- ✓ You can also use cards and the markers to incorporate story elements.
- ✓ You will need to devise a method for moving from start to finish. Consider dice, cards, or a spinner.
- ✓ Be sure your directions are sequential and easy to understand.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Letter Exchange Book Project

The Project

Write a series of letters between you and a character from the book.



The Details

- You will need to write six letters altogether: three from you to the character in the book and three from the character back to you. Include a cover page with the title, author and an illustration.
- Each letter should be about a page long.
- In your letters, ask the character questions that have to do with the character's life and the story. Have the character answer the questions in his or her letters back to you. Write about things that you find interesting and things that you and the character have in common.
- Do something to distinguish the character's letters from yours. Some ideas include: Using different paper or stationary, changing your handwriting, or typing either your or the character's letters. You could also include illustrations. Be sure to write your character's letter's in his or her voice.

Tips for Success

- ✓ In your first letter, make it clear why you are writing. Maybe you met the character at summer camp. Maybe you were matched in a school pen pal project. Use your imagination.
- ✓ Even though you will be asking questions, try not to make your letters sound like an interview. Make them friendly and chatty. It is fine to tell the character about your life, especially if you can relate something in your life to the character's life. For example, if your character has a little brother that drives him crazy, you could talk about your little sister.

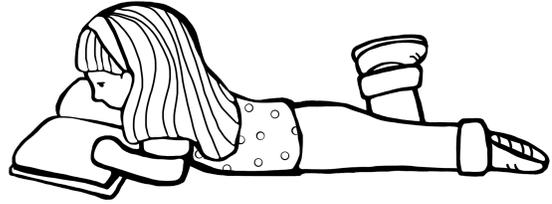
Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Create a Test Book Project

The Project

Create a test about the book.



The Details

- Your test should be designed to find out if a person has read and understood the book. Questions should be focused on the important parts of the book, not tiny details.
- Your test should include the following elements
 - Directions for each section.
 - At least 10 True/False questions.
 - At least 10 multiple choice questions.
 - At least 10 short answer questions.
 - An answer key.
 - A cover page with the title, author and an illustration.
- Try to ask questions from the beginning, middle, and end of your book.
- Focus on setting, characters, plot and theme.

Tips for Success

- ✓ While you are reading the book, write down questions you might want to use and the page numbers where you found them.
- ✓ Make your multiple choice questions tricky by providing wrong answers that seem like they might be right.
- ✓ Don't make your questions too easy, but try not to make them too hard either. Sometimes it helps to ask for someone else's opinion.

Name _____ Due Date _____

Title of Book _____

Book Project Choices



Decorate a box to represent your book and fill it with objects that represent different parts of your book.

Use words and pictures to make a timeline of the important events in your book.

Create a shoebox diorama of an important scene from your book.

Create a mobile using the four story elements of your book.

Pretend your book is going to be made into a movie. Create a movie poster to promote the movie.

Create a test about your book.



Pretend you are the main character of your book. Make a scrapbook with items and pictures of important items from the story.

Make a detailed map of an important setting from your book.

Create a collage using pictures that represent important parts of your book.

Make a 3-D model of the main character of your book and write an interview with the character.

Write a series of letters between you and a character from the book.

Create a board game based on your book.

Make a glossary for some of the interesting words in your book. Then create a word search with those words.

Make a PowerPoint presentation about your book.

Choose a chapter from your book and present it as a graphic novel (comic strip style).

Name _____

Book Project Notes

Use this form to keep track of important ideas, thoughts, questions, and words while you read the book. If you fold it in half and in half again, it makes a handy bookmark. That way you will always have your notes nearby.

Title _____

Note

Page #

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Name _____

Book Project Notes

Use this form to keep track of important ideas, thoughts, questions, and words while you read the book. If you fold it in half and in half again, it makes a handy bookmark. That way you will always have your notes nearby.

Title _____

Pg.# _____