Support secondary students’ summer reading endeavors!

One of the best ways to improve reading proficiency is by reading! The following activities can be used to help secondary summer readers keep focused and reading all summer! “BOOKTIVITIES” are short activities that will provide readers with interesting ways to think about texts.

For more information, contact reading@esc4.net.
A WALK IN MY SHOES
Take a walk in a character’s shoes by documenting the journey he/she faces in the story. This can be documented on a timeline, in a jot list, or in a reading journal.

A-Z
Write the alphabet on a sheet of paper. To think more deeply about your text, write a word associated with the text that represents each letter of the alphabet.

Symbolic Action
Identify important symbols in the story. Write them out in the first column of a chart. In subsequent columns, think of other movies or texts that share similar symbols and write in their names.

Opposites Attract
Find unfamiliar words that you are interested in learning. Look them up. Create a word web showing antonyms.

MICROMANAGE
Read several short stories. Write out the themes. Rate themes from most interesting to least interesting.

Compare and Contrast
Create a Venn diagram of yourself and the character OR two characters in the story. Show the similarities and differences in the two characters.

A Conflicting Story
Determine the main conflict in the story. Draw a pictorial representation of the conflict.

FAMOUS QUOTES
Write your favorite quotes from the story on strips of paper, or write them on a large sheet of paper that is attached to a wall. Create an area to display your quotes. Include the title of the book and author in your display.

THE WRITER WITHIN
Think carefully about how the author writes the text. Are the sentences long? Are they short? How are the words arranged? Craft an imitation of the author’s style.

Prepositional Reading
Create a list of where and how you will read each day. Cross them off your list after you read. Examples: under a tree—in a car—to a pet—by a window—with a flashlight—on the couch—at the pool—to a parent—with a friend—on the grass—in the sunshine—on my bed
Research Round Up
Find out more about your favorite author by doing an internet search. Chronicle the author’s journey to become a writer.

GENRE RACE
Read text from the following genres. Race with a friend to see who can read them all first!
historical fiction—fantasy—science fiction—poetry—non-fiction—drama

Lost and Found
As you read, post on a bulletin board a brief description of what the main character has lost or found. Think metaphorically! Did your character lose faith? Confidence? Did your character find courage? Ambition?

Problem and Solution
An entertaining story presents conflicts. As you read, use two-column notes to keep a list of conflicts on the left side. Present potential solutions in the column on the right.

Cause and Effect
Cause and effect relationships often reveal complexities in a story’s plot. Write causes on sticky notes. Then create a set of effects. Match them up!

Dinner for Two
If you were to dine with the main character, where would you go and what would you talk about? Present this dinner conversation and setting in a comic strip.

There’s an APP for That!
Think of apps that will be helpful to the main character. Create a list with an explanation of how they will enhance the character in some way.

SHOPPING SPREE!
As you read, think about what your character needs. Create a shopping list of the items that would be most helpful.

PHOTO ESSAY
Find or take pictures that tell the story you are reading. Provide brief captions. When you are finished, you will have the story’s summary.

Storyteller
Read and record your text. Share the story with a younger student, sibling, or relative. Read with expression! Make the story come alive!

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As you read, think about what your character needs. Create a list with an explanation of how they will enhance the character in some way.

Photo Essay
Find or take pictures that tell the story you are reading. Provide brief captions. When you are finished, you will have the story’s summary.
**Over the Rainbow**
After reading the first part of a story, sketch a rainbow with a pot of gold at one end. At this end of the rainbow, either sketch out or write what the main character is hoping to find.

**Scavenger Hunt**
After you read the text, brainstorm a list of interesting topics worthy of further research. Become an expert on a topic! Find out all you can using either print or media resources.

**Collage Creation**
Create a collage of pictures, objects, quotes, or journal entries to represent your text.

**100 Minutes Countdown**
Build your reading stamina! Map out a plan so that you are able to read for 100 minutes without stopping! Try increasing your reading time by 10 minutes each day to reach 100!

**Dimensions**
Cut out a hexagon. Along each side, provide the following information from your story:
- plot summary
- personal association
- theme
- literary device analysis
- comparison to another story
- evaluation of the story

**Prediction Ping Pong**
Partners reading the same text will take turns creating predictions. Predictions can be shared in person or through social media.

**Pen Pal**
Write a letter to a friend explaining reasons why the story you read should be recommended to others.

**READ ALL ABOUT IT!**
Create a newspaper's front page. Include noteworthy events from the text!

**THREE WISHES**
Think about the main character's conflicts. If you could grant three wishes, what would they be? Justify your decisions!

**Over the Rainbow**
After reading the first part of a story, sketch a rainbow with a pot of gold at one end. At this end of the rainbow, either sketch out or write what the main character is hoping to find.

**IF...THEN**
As you read, create IF clauses to express what might happen next.

Example: IF the main character loses the game, then the team will not win the championship.
Meet and Greet
Who would you most like to meet from your novel?
Create a list of questions you would be sure to ask!

IN SUMMARY...
Use sticky notes after every few pages to write out and complete the following phrase:
In summary, ______

Mountain Climbing
Imagine the conflict and obstacles that your character endures in the story similar to climbing a mountain. Draw the mountain and illustrate key times in the metaphorical ascent that the character experiences difficulty.

Tiny Snow Globe
Imagine the setting of your story in a tiny snow globe. Sketch a snow globe. Include objects in the snow globe that are essential to the story.

Book Mark
Using strips of paper as bookmarks, make notations and insert bookmarks in key pages where you want to imitate the writer’s craft in your own writing.

Circle of Friends
Gather a group of friends to read the same book that you are reading. Each member will share significant passages.

Brag Book
Fold a few sheets of paper to create a booklet. In this booklet, include actions, decisions, or achievements that make a character in the story proud.

SUPERHERO TO THE RESCUE!
If you could design a superhero, what powers would the superhero have? How would they help the characters in the story? Think of a clever way to design your superhero to help your characters.

REEL IT IN!
CHOOSE A BOOK THAT HAS A MOVIE ADAPTATION. COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE MOVIE AND THE BOOK USING A VENN DIAGRAM OR OTHER GRAPHIC ORGANIZER.

Pin It!
What important items would your character pin? Collect pictures of these items. Below them, explain why you chose to pin them.

IN SUMMARY...
BOOK IT!
Place 3 sheets of paper in a stack. Cut these sheets into 3 horizontal strips of equal width. Stack all strips into one stack. Fold the middle of the strips, creating a small booklet. On each left-hand page, draw a key scene from the book. On each right-hand page, write a description of the scene.

IF I HAD A _______
DETERMINE THE MOST IMPORTANT OBJECT YOUR CHARACTER MIGHT NEED TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICT IN THE STORY. DRAW OR CREATE THE OBJECT AND EXPLAIN HOW THE OBJECT RESOLVES THE CONFLICT. THE OBJECT CAN BE METAPHORICAL!

HEART-TO-HEART
Find a friend who is reading the same book that you are reading. Determine how many pages you and your reading partner will read each day. Send each other daily emails or texts, discussing your thoughts about the book.

TO CATCH A CHARACTER
DESIGN AN AWARD FOR YOUR CHARACTER. CATCH YOUR CHARACTER DOING SOMETHING NOTEWORTHY. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CAN CREATE AN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.

POET FOR A DAY
Write a poem about the text. Include a metaphor!

THIS SETTING IS A CANVAS, RICH WITH VIBRANT COLORS AND TEXTURES

Take Cover
Using an unlined piece of paper and pictures from magazines, clip art, or your own drawings, create a new cover for the book on one side (front cover). On the other side (back cover), write your own summary of the book.

Word!
Using index cards with tape or sticky notes, write a new vocabulary word from your reading on each one. Make a WORD WALL in your house. After you have used the word and know it, replace it with other unfamiliar words.

Top Ten
CREATE A TOP TEN LIST IN A JOURNAL OF THE NEW IDEAS/CONCEPTS/WORDS YOU LEARN FROM YOUR READING. REFLECT ON ALL THE NEW THINGS YOU HAVE LEARNED JUST BY READING!

SHADOW ART
If you had to shadow a character, what advice would you give? Draw a comic strip of key scenes from your reading. Include yourself giving advice to a character.

FOLLOW IN MY FOOTSTEPS
TRACE YOUR SHOE ON SHEETS OF PAPER. CUT OUT YOUR FOOTSTEPS. FOR EACH FOOTPRINT, DESCRIBE ONE SPECIFIC SETTING FROM THE CHARACTER’S JOURNEY.