Response to Text Question Cards

Students begin their foundational journey in reading and writing as they are introduced to the basic skills of genre, author's purpose, story pattern, and summarization. As their learning progresses, they begin to prioritize the organization and craft of writing in both oral and written scenarios. These foundational skills are necessary for their elemental understanding of the language and comprehension of reading and writing across all content areas. A crucial part of the reading/writing connection is the ability to read and comprehend or respond to what they read. It is important, as the teachers of reading and writing in Kindergarten and First Grade, to lay a firm foundation not only in predictable listening/predictable reading, but also in the recognition of writing to read (generative writing) and reading to write (responsive writing).

To scaffold the instruction from basic reading/writing skills to comprehension, we have included Response to Text cards. These are to be used throughout the year in accordance with the skills/lessons from the Getting Ready to Write Guide. The responses can be oral, pictorial, or written. The cards are divided into five sections:
Genre/Author's Purpose, Narrative Response Cards (later referred to as Framing Questions), Informational Response and Opinion Response Cards (later referred to as Key Comprehension Questions), and Text Evidence Cards (evidence that supports your response). Each card is printed front and back with questions on the front, and sentence starters on the back. This provides students with the vocabulary to frame up their response. It also introduces them to the idea of "Turning the question/task into the response." The use of these cards can be scaffolded at the teacher's discretion, depending on the grade level, the time of year, and the abilities of the students in the classroom.

Here is a sample of the scaffolded instruction:
When teaching genre (narrative, informational and opinion writing) and author's purpose, the genre-based cards can be used.

For example: *What is the genre of this text?*
The genre of this text is ___.

Then as lessons progress in the Getting Ready to Write Guide, new response questions can be layered into the lessons.

For example: *Who is the main character in this story? (narrative)*
The main character in this story is _____.
Or *What is the topic of this text? (informational)*
The topic of this text is _____.
Or *What is your favorite part of this story? (opinion)*
My favorite part of this story is ____.

© 2019 Empowering Writers, LLC

And finally, when students are ready, the text evidence questions (**) can be added.

For example: *What is the genre of this text?*
***How do you know?*
The genre of this text is ____.
***I know this because _____.*

Or *What is the setting of this story?*
**What evidence in this story shows this?*
The setting of this story is _____.
***The evidence I found was ____.*

Remember, the response cards are intended for oral, pictorial, and written responses, dependent on student readiness to write their responses. They can be used often with any reading selection utilized in the classroom. They correlate with the skills in the Getting Ready to Write guide, which provides a great sequence for introducing the cards.

***Note to teachers:**
The use of academic language is woven throughout the Response to Text cards. It is necessary that students become familiar with the vocabulary of genre and response to ensure their understanding of the questions and appropriate responses. Listed below are examples of academic vocabulary dispersed among the cards.

AUTHOR'S PURPOSE
GENRE
STORY
TEXT
PIECE
MAIN CHARACTER
SETTING
PROBLEM/SOLUTION
EXPERIENCE/ADVENTURE
THEME
INFER
TEXT FEATURE
DETAIL
OPINION
PREFER
EVIDENCE
CLUE

© 2019 Empowering Writers, LLC

Response to Text Question Cards Color Key

Genre/Author's Purpose – White
Narrative Response Questions – Blue
Informational Response Questions – Yellow
Opinion Response Questions – Orange
Text Evidence Questions – Green

These activity card pages can be printed and copied on color stock, following the key above. Copy the card sheets 2-sided for the correct placement of text on the front and back of the cards.

© 2019 Empowering Writers, LLC

How is this piece organized?

3

What is the genre of this story?

1

What is the genre of this text/book?

4

What is the author's purpose of this text?

2

Genre/Author's Purpose Cards



The genre of this story is _____.

1

This piece is organized with the _____.

3

The author's purpose of this text is _____.

2

The genre of this text/book is _____.

4

What is the main problem, experience or adventure in the story?

7

Who is the main character in this story?

5

How does the main character feel in the story?

8

What is the setting of the story?

6

Narrative Response Questions



The main character in the story is _____.

5

The main problem, experience or adventure in the story is _____.

7

The setting of the story is _____.

6

The main character feels _____ .

8

How does the main character solve the problem or end the experience/adventure?

9

What is the theme of the story?

10

How does the author describe _____ in the text?

11

What can you infer from this picture?
or
What can you infer when the author writes _____?

12

Narrative Response Questions



The main character solves the problem or ends the experience/adventure by _____.

9

The author describes _____ in the text as _____.

11

Clearly, the theme of the story is _____.

10

I can infer that _____.

12



13

What is the author describing?

The author is describing _____.

13

What does this piece give you information about?

15

What is the topic of this text?

13

What did the author teach you?

16

What text features did the author use?

14

Informational Response Questions



The topic of this text is _____.

13

This piece gives you information about ____.

15

The author uses _____.

14

The author taught us _____.

16

17

What is one interesting detail you learned in the book/text?

One interesting detail I learned in the book/text is _____.

17

What was the best part of the story/text?

20

What is your favorite book?

18

Why did you like this story/text?

21

What is your favorite part of the story/text?

19

Opinion Response Questions



My favorite book is_____.

18

My favorite part of the story/text is _____.

19

In my opinion, the best part of the story/text is _____.

20

I liked this story/text because _____.

21

What did the story remind you of in your own life?

24

Which part of the story/piece did you prefer?

22

Would you recommend this story?

25

How did the story make you feel?

23

Opinion Response Questions



In the story/piece, I preferred the part about _____.

22

The story reminded me of _____.

24

The story made me feel _____.

23

I (would) (would not) recommend this story because _____.

25

What example from the story/text shows this?

28

How do you know?

26

What picture clues support your answer?

29

What evidence in the story/text shows this?

27

Text Evidence Questions



I know this because _____.

26

We see this when _____.

28

The evidence I found was _____.

27

The picture of _____ shows _____.

29

30

Why is this important?

This is important because _____.

30