

Ryan Academy Summer Reading

For Students Entering K– 8th Grades

All students should record the names and authors of the books they read during the summer in their ***Summer Reading Log***. (This may also be downloaded from our website.) A minimum of three, grade appropriate books are required.

Please consult the list on our website if you are having difficulty choosing grade appropriate books.

Students should bring their ***Summer Reading Logs*** to school with them on the first day of class in September.

Students should consult with their parent or guardian to decide which book they will present to their new class by giving a ***book talk***.

Classroom teachers will schedule book talks during the first few weeks of school.

What is a book talk?

A **book talk** is a short, spoken presentation that offers the audience enough information to make them want to read a book. Students should select books that they enjoyed and let their audience learn enough about the story or topic to decide if they would also like to read book. Basically, it is an *enthusiastic* presentation of a book for an audience. A book talk is a performance, designed to entice people to read a chosen book. It is like a movie trailer, in that it never contains spoilers, and always leaves the audience interested and hoping for more.

A book talk is *not* a book report, it is *not* a book review and it is *not* an analysis of the book.

A book talk will provide a *glimpse* of:

- Setting
- Characters
- Major or general storyline
- It should inspire others to want to read the book.

A book talk can be anywhere from one to five minutes long and should never provide information about the climax, the resolution or any other details that would *spoil* the experience for a reader if they chose to read the book.

Book talks give students the opportunity to present ***and*** hear recommendations from peers. Hopefully this will help to build a ***reading community*** in your child's classroom and engage students in the habit of sharing information about books they love.

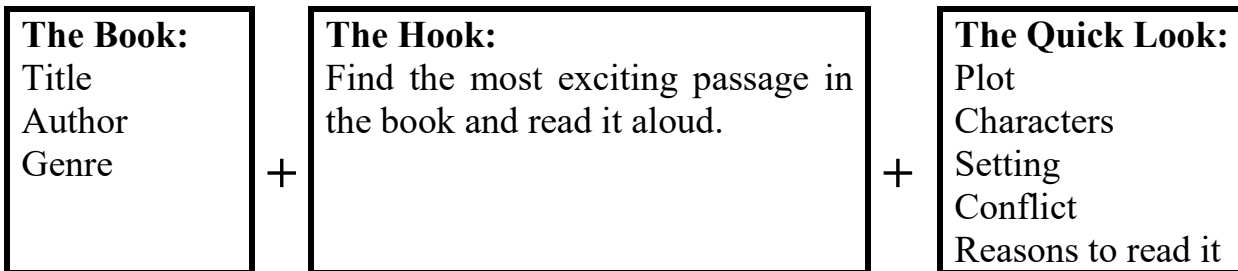
Students may want to prepare notecards as they plan their book talk, but they are not required. Students should speak about what they know – it would be a good idea to practice giving a book talk at home for family and friends. HAVE FUN!

How to Rock a Book Talk

The No-Pain Way to Give a Presentation

Do: Choose a worthy book. Intrigue your listeners. Read a passage aloud. Draw attention to the best parts. Show the book.	Don't: Spoil the ending. Book talk a book that you didn't like. Book talk a book you haven't read. Summarize the entire plot. Talk too much...leave them curious!
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The Formula



Tips for Great Presentations:

Be calm. Try to speak in a natural and friendly voice.
Be honest. Book talks are about sharing great books. Tell your audience what you liked best about your book! And don't share one you didn't like or haven't read.
Be resourceful. Ask your teachers, parents, or librarian to help with ideas.
Be prepared. Practice your presentation! You can make notes to help you remember what you want to say.

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Summer Reading Log

Student Name:	Grade:
Name of the Book	Author