

Alternative Book Report Projects for the Science Non-Fiction Book Report

Different Ending

Write a different ending for the book. Make it end the way you really wanted it to, or try to see from the viewpoint of another and have it go their way.

Travel to a Destination

Create a travel brochure for the setting of the story. Sell the location through pictures, faux-itineraries, accommodations, attractions, etc.

Comic

Summarize the book into a comic or story aimed for younger students. Take the key points from the book and reword it into a story that an elementary student could understand. Use sketches/pictures to give at least 15 comic book frames for your story.

TV Life

Prepare a television commercial about your book. Act out the commercial for your classmates or videotape it and be prepared to play it for your classmates.

100 Years from Now

Explain why you think this book will or will not be read 100 years from now. Support your opinion by stating specific events in the story.

Music from the Story

Write a ballad or song about the characters and events in your story. Set the words to the music of a popular song and sing it to the class. Can be previously recorded and played during class.

Main Event

Design a poster or new book cover depicting the climax of the story. Include information such as title, background art, key characters, etc.

Heroes and Superheroes

Select two or three people your character would think of as a hero or superhero. Describe the characteristics of the hero and why those characteristics would be important to your character. Also describe which characteristics your character would most want for himself/herself that the hero or superhero possesses

Create a Childhood for a Character

If your main character is an adult, try to figure out what he or she would have been like as a child. Write the story of his or her childhood in such a way that shows why he or she is the way he or she is in the novel.

Critique from the Point of View of a Specific Organization

Select an organization that might have a lot to say about the actions or portrayals of characters in the novel you read, and write a critique of the book from its point of view. For example the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals might have a lot to say about Lennie's treatment of animals in *Of Mice and Men*, The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the portrayal of Crooks, and the National Organization of Women on the portrayal of Curley's wife and the fact that she was never given a name

Scrap book

Think about all the kinds of mementos you would put in a scrap book if you had one. Then create a scrap book for your character, cutting out pictures from magazines or drawing the mementos he or she would have in a scrap book. Think about Willie in *The Crazy Horse Electric Game* by Chris Crutcher. He would probably have something in his scrapbook to represent his baby sister, his love of baseball, his accident, his experiences in L.A., and so on

A Character's Fears

One way we get to know characters is to think deeply about them and make inferences based on their actions and on what they and others say about them. Through a person's actions we can learn what they fear and what they want to avoid the most. Select several characters from your novel and write short essays on what you believe they fear the most and what evidence you used to come to this conclusion.

A Character Alphabet

Choose a character you liked and then create sentences based on the alphabet scheme that demonstrate your knowledge of the character. If after reading *Spite Fences*, you decided to write Zeke's alphabet it could start like this: A is for the *ABUSE* Zeke took at the hands of a racist mob. B is for his *BENDING OVER BACKWARDS* to make sure the visiting civil rights activist could work in obscurity.