



There are many, many ways for children to respond to what they read. Below is a collection of activities I have used over the years in place of the traditional workbooks and worksheets.

READING RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

1. Beach Ball - Using a marker write the story elements on different sections of the beach ball. (characters, setting, problem, solution, beginning, middle, end, etc.) Throw the beach ball to someone, when they catch it, they look where their thumb landed – they tell us that part of the story. from Classrooms That Work

2. Pizza Pie – Divide a large poster board circle into 8 – 12 sections. On each section, write a story element. On the front, draw pizza toppings. Working in groups, they choose a slice of pizza and are responsible to tell us that part of the story during the discussion time.

3. Quartering the Story – Each child divides a sheet of drawing paper into 4 sections.

Section 1 = draw a picture of a scene from the story

Section 2 = write any new words and the meaning

Section 3 = do a character sketch of a character

Section 4 = summarize the story in a few sentences

From Deb, second grade, on the mailing

4. Story Maps

5. Story Wheels - (best for novels) go to

<http://www.knownet.net/users/Ackley/stwheel.html>

6. Novel Grid – Give children a large (12x18) sheet of paper. Fold or divide the paper into 8-]