



Elementary/Secondary English Academic Circles

Topic: Reviewing a Book or Story the Student has Read or is Assigned to Read, Circle #1

Purpose	To create a fun way for adults to help their students' English skills while working at home.
Materials	A book, or a small object that will be the Talking Piece
Set Up	Arrange everyone in the family to sit together in a circle in a space where nothing is in the middle of the circle
Steps	<p style="text-align: center;">Circle #1 - When the Student Has Just Started Reading the Book/Story</p> <p>Guidelines Read the Guidelines out loud to your children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is our family learning circle. We are going to learn from each other by speaking from the heart, listening from the heart, say just enough, and trust you know what to say. <p>Opening Activity This is a fun question to get started. This could also be a question to ask how everyone is feeling/doing. Everyone takes a turn by passing the talking piece. Everyone else is listening. Read the questions to your children, and you as the parent answer the question first:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you had a superpower, what would it be? And why? <p>Round 1 Have one of your students start responding and move around the circle to your other students. Children younger than 2nd grade can add information from books or stories they are reading or have read in the past. If younger children do not have a response, they may make a comment or tell the secondary student "good job". Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tell us the name of the book or story and who wrote it. <p>Round 2 Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tell us who the main characters are, and who is your favorite character? <p>Round 3 Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where are the characters in the story, and what time period are they in - the present, past or future? <p>Round 4 Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you like the book/story so far, and what do you think will happen next? <p>Closing Read the following to your children. You go first, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make a positive affirmation together, or each person can take a turn, saying, "I am a reader" "I enjoy learning with my family."