

Elementary/Secondary English Academic Circles

Topic: Reviewing a Book or Story the Student has Read or is Assigned to Read, Circle #2

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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	Circle #2 - When the Student is About Half Way Through The Book/Story
	Guidelines Read the Guidelines out loud to your children:
	- 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.
	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 be the example by answering the question first:
	- If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?
	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:
	- Remind us of the name of the book/story you are reading, what happened in the story so far, and were you surprised?
	Round 2 Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:
	- Is there a villain or "bad guy" in the story that causes a problem? Tell who it is and what are they doing to cause a problem.
	Round 3 Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:
	- Who is helping the main character solve the problem?
	Round 4 Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to begin the round with their answers:
	- What type of story is this? Fiction, non fiction, realistic fiction, historical fiction, mystery, adventure, humor, or myth?
	Closing Read the following to your children, and prompt your student to respond. Have everyone answer and do a dance move with their answer. - Finish the sentence: This book/story reminds me of