

Sample Learning Plan

Easiest Book Club Ever

The format of a book club provides a great shared learning experience:

- 6 weeks
- One 90 minute meeting per week
- Facilitated by staff or volunteer or combination of both
- Allows for peer mentoring

Each weekly lesson is built around a reading strategy and incorporates oral communication, reading and writing:

Week One – Introduction and Predicting

Predict using the title and cover to guess what the book is about. Compare predictions to the inside flap/back cover. Read the first and last paragraph of the first chapter. Alter predictions.

Week Two – Character Analysis

Character Analysis is important to understanding the text. To encourage readers to think about the characters ask them to assign character traits to each character. When combined, these character traits can create a description of the character.

Week Three – Inference

Inference requires ‘reading between the lines’. Readers figure out things that aren’t actually written in the text. There’s almost always more to a text than just the words on the page. These “clues” can be used by good readers to discover important information.

Week Four – Retell and Summarize

Summarizing is the reading strategy that requires taking larger selections of text and reducing them to their bare essentials: the main ideas that are worth noting and remembering. *Retell* or write what happened in the story, including characters, plot, and important events.

Week Five – Reflect

Discussion questions encourage readers to *reflect* on what they have read. How are the passages or chapters inter-related? How does the information fit into things you have already learned? What new information did you learn? Did the passage include the information you expected it to cover? Was there information that surprised you?

Week Six – Conclusion and Review

It is always helpful to *review* the information when you've finished reading. Think about what predictions you made before and during reading. Look back and think about what you have read. Were your questions answered? Do you have more questions about the book?

Source material: Campbell, Dr. Pat. *Teaching Beginning Readers*. Grass Roots Press, 2010.