

Learning together

I Think That...

ACTIVITY #15

SEQUENCE: READING STRATEGIES –
1ST CYCLE – PRIMARY

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Purpose of the activity

In the previous activity, we mentioned that reading entertains and informs us, but mostly it makes us react. When we react to a text, it helps us express our opinions and how we feel about a book or text. The objective of this activity is to learn how to evaluate how much we enjoyed a book or a text.



Relevance of the activity

In class, your child is developing their knowledge of literature. Slowly, your child is learning to see the value of a text and illustrations. They are also learning to appreciate the choices that the author makes and express why they like or dislike a text. This is how they build their identity as a reader! This learning process lends itself well to your daily bedtime reading; most likely, it will spark some engaging discussions between you and your children.



Supplies

- Text *Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!* (see Appendix)
- Text *Flamie and the Mystery of the Pink Shrimp* (see Appendix)

To carry out this activity, you can also use:

- school texts your child has to read;
- a book at your child's reading level.



LET'S GO!

What?



Today, we are going to learn how to develop an opinion of a work based on specific criteria.

Why?



Reading should be enjoyable and motivating. If you read a book or a text that you don't like or that doesn't bring you any joy, it might be because it isn't in line with your interests ... And, yes, it is okay not to like a book or a text. However, it's important to know why. This might help you make good choices and also to become aware of the elements that will help you appreciate a text, or not. Lastly, this will help you develop your identity as a reader.

When?



After reading, you can share what you liked with your parents, your teacher and your friends! Talking about what you have read with other people will help you grow and learn who you are as a reader.

How?



To appreciate a book or a text, you need to know what to pay attention to.

You can ask yourself questions about the story:

- Which character did I like the most? Why?
- Which part of the story did I enjoy the most?
- Was this story:
 - Funny? Touching? Surprising?
 - Complicated? Boring? Unrealistic?
- Did the illustrations help me understand the text? Can I give an example?
- Would I recommend this story to a friend? Why?



You can also ask yourself questions about the characteristics of the book or the text:

- If it is a book, you can ask:
 - Is it a picture book, a comic, or a magazine?
 - Which format do I prefer and why?
- Does the cover of this book make me want to read it? Why?
 - To help me, I can look at the title, the illustrations, the author, etc.
- What is the format of this book? Is there anything special about its shape? Does it make me curious?
- Are there any rhymes or repetitions? Do I find that fun? Why?



Show your child the two texts in the Appendix (two different formats) and compare them.

Look at the text *Flamie* and the *Mystery of the Pink Shrimp* and the text *Flamie, the Pink Flamingo*! You can ask yourself the following questions for each text:

- *Is this text long or short for me? Does it make me want to read it?*
- *Is the layout of the text clear and pleasant? Does it help me read?*
- *Are the illustrations nice and do they match the text well?*
- *Does the font help me read the words easily?*

As you can see, there are different ways to show your appreciation of a text or a book. You can ask questions about the story, but also about the characteristics of the text or book.

You can now practise this strategy with a book that matches your child's reading level.



Don't forget!

To give your opinion about a text, say what you think and explain why using "because ..."



Flamie and the Mystery of the Pink Shrimp

In a peaceful marsh, there lived Flamie, a pink flamingo with bright feathers. Flamie was an elegant creature, loved by all the animals of the marsh.

One day, all of Flamie's friends were gathered around a tree, restless and worried. They had discovered that their favourite food had mysteriously disappeared from the lake. She had to do something!

Flamie discovered that a huge tree trunk was blocking the path of the small shrimp. Without their favourite food, the flamingos risked losing their bright pink colour.

Flamie called on all the animals of the marsh to help her move the tree trunk. They worked together to clear the path for the pink shrimp.

To thank her for her courage and determination, the animals of the marsh organized a big celebration in Flamie's honour.



Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!

Do you know Flamie? She is a beautiful pink bird, who lives in marshes and lakes. Flamie is very elegant with her pretty feathers and long, thin legs.

Flamie likes to be with other pink flamingos. Sometimes, they band together in big groups to eat and rest.

Do you know why Flamie is pink? It's because of the food that she eats. She eats small shellfish that look like tiny shrimp.

Flamie moves around easily in the water thanks to her webbed feet. They stop her from sinking into the silt and help her to balance.

When you see a pink flamingo like Flamie, take a moment to admire their beauty. Pink flamingos are extraordinary animals!



Source: Chat GPT