

Four Book Talk Ideas



Offer students a choice for fiction and a choice for nonfiction. Having more than two types of book talks going at once makes grading and keeping track of choices difficult.

Two Book Talks for Fiction

BOOK TALK 1: REALISTIC FICTION

- State the title, author and genre.
- Identify three narrative elements—such as setting, problems, and conflicts—and explain how each one is realistic.
- Choose an event or character that you connected with and explain the connection.

BOOK TALK 2: HISTORICAL FICTION

- State the title, author, and genre.
- Identify the historical period and discuss three things you learned about this period. These can relate to family, religion, friendship, jobs, education, and so on.
- Discuss two ways in which life during the time of your book was the same as or different from your life today.

Two Book Talks for Nonfiction

BOOK TALK 3: INFORMATIONAL BOOKS

- State the title, author, and genre.
- Why did you choose this topic?
- Discuss two new or interesting facts you learned.
- Did the book change the way you think about this topic? Explain why or why not.

BOOK TALK 4: BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY, OR MEMOIR

- State the title, author, and identify the person the book is about.
- Explain what this person did that changed the world, the environment, saved lives, or in some way helped people.
- Choose a person or event from your book that shaped this person's life and explain how.
- You can find additional book talks in my books *Differentiating Reading Instruction* and *Teaching Reading: A Differentiated Approach*.