

What Students Who Work Independently Can Do



During independent workshop time, students will be engaged in a variety of tasks. Each time the class meets, note on the chalkboard two or three choices for using this time. Choices change depending on your plans and deadline dates for assignments. I suggest that you remind students two days prior to a deadline date that work is due. Middle-school students are learning to budget their time and require your support, especially for projects that span a few days or weeks. Below are some possibilities for choice time:

- Independent, choice reading and/or instructional reading
- Working on a project alone or with a partner or group
- Completing journal work
- Practicing an oral book talk or completing a written book review
- Working on writing that relates to the reading
- Conferring with a peer partner
- Interviewing another teacher who's knowledgeable on a specific topic (with permission)
- Going to the library for materials (with permission)
- Working on a computer in the classroom
- Completing research for a project