

How to wet your students' appetite...

Present appropriate books regularly. In your presentations

- focus on a key scene where your main character finds himself in a difficult situation.
- focus on the main problem or conflict of the book
- link the problem to the real world around us
- do not give away the whole plot.

Ideas for your presentations:


- Describe the main character(s) and their situation/problem/desires...
- Invite students to search for solutions to the problems presented in the book.
- "Put yourself in my shoes" (How would you (the students) react if...)
- Introduce a news article or other text about current events/news that are related to the theme of the novel.
- Read the opening page(s) and stop at a cliff-hanger.
- Choose a really riveting passage (where the main character is in trouble) for a running dictation or dictogloss, then have Ss guess what the book might be about.
- Give Ss the title of the book and/or bookcover, have them ask you YES/NO questions.
- Write a postcard or letter from the main character's point of view (e.g. : describe the situation. ask for help). Ss then write back, asking further questions, giving advice...
- Read a riveting page from the middle of the book. Have Ss guess who/what/why/where...
- Be creative...

While waiting for the books to arrive ask students to write a short paragraph (100 words) including the following phrases:

- I've chosen because
- I hope that....
- I wonder if...

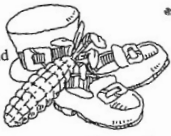
Name _____

The One-Person Show



Performance Planning Sheet

To get ready for your one-person performance, read your book and think about the main character. Plan your performance by filling out this sheet. Finally, practice your performance in front of a mirror.



Book title _____ Author _____

Character's name & age _____

1. What will I need to wear in order to show my audience when and where my character lived? _____

2. How will I need to speak in order to show my character's age? What kind of accent or special words will I need to use? _____

3. What kinds of props will I need? (Props include tables and chairs as well as things actors use like books and reading glasses.) _____

4. As I pretend to be this character, what will I tell the audience about who my character is, where he or she came from, what he or she thinks and feels, and what has happened in his or her life? _____

The body of Christopher Creed *Elisore*

I've chosen "The body of Christopher Creed" because I think it's a very interesting story that I hope will make me think later.

I hope that in the book Christopher Creed is not dead and will be found again.

I wonder if it was only because of his fellow students that he left?

I wonder if he was so depressed that he really killed himself.

I wonder if he had ever had a best friend?

I wonder why he was (hated) by everybody.

I wonder if why he didn't change schools?

The One-Person Show and other great ideas can be found in Christine Boardmann Moen, *Better Than Book Reports*, Scholastic Professional Books, 1992