



**Writers' Workshop:
Literacy Circles
Role Sheets
Grades 4-12**

Voice and Choice in Reading

**John Brogan, Presenter
Director, Bath Institute of Writing
Freeport, ME**

Johnbrogan@aol.com

**Staff Development For Educators
1-800-924-9621
Peterborough, NH**

Beliefs about literacy

- **Literacy is Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening**
 - **Children learn literacy through interaction**
- **Literacy experiences should be student centered**
- **Reading and Writing for meaning are paramount**
 - **Reading and Writing should have a purpose**
 - **Literacy learning must always be rewarding**
- **Reading and Writing are inseparable processes**
- **Children learn to write by writing several kinds of texts**
 - **Writing is a powerful tool for learning**
- **The best approach is a combination of approaches**
- **Good first teaching is essential for literacy learning**
- **The foundations for literacy are laid in the early years**
 - **Literacy flourishes in a supportive community**
 - **Success encourages growth in literacy**

Pointer

Name _____

Book Title _____

The pointer's job: Read and enjoy this section of the book. While you read, or after you read, jot down three places in that made you think a bit. Any part of the reading you choose is the right part to bring to your group and you get to decide how that part will be shared. You might read the part to the group. You might ask everybody in the group to read it silently, or you might ask another member of the group to read it aloud. You can't get anything wrong here. Any part of the reading is the right part to bring to your group.

Write down the three parts below:

Reason for pointing

1. Page _____
Paragraph _____

2. Page _____
Paragraph _____

3. Page _____
Paragraph _____

Reading Plan: Page _____ to Page _____

Questioner

Name _____

Book Title _____

The questioner's job: As you read, think of three questions that you can bring to your circle to help with discussion. What seemed strange or surprising? What didn't seem to add up? What do you think will happen next? What made a character do what he or she did?

Reason for questioning

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Page _____
Paragraph _____ | _____
_____ |
| 2. | Page _____
Paragraph _____ | _____
_____ |
| 3. | Page _____
Paragraph _____ | _____
_____ |

Reading Plan: Page _____ to Page _____

Connector

Name _____

Book Title _____

The connector's job: Read and enjoy this section of the book. After reading think of three places that reminded you of your own life. Things that happen to characters in books happen to all of us: things that happen in school or at your house or in your neighborhood. The reading could also remind you other things you have read. Whatever connections you make are the right ones to bring to your group.

Reason for connection

1. Page _____
Paragraph _____

2. Page _____
Paragraph _____

3. Page _____
Paragraph _____

Reading Plan: Page _____ to Page _____

Artist

Name _____

Book Title _____

Directions for the Artist: After you have read this section, draw a picture. This drawing is meant to show a glimpse of the movie you saw in your mind as you read, or what the reading made you think as you read.

Reason for questioning

Reading Plan: Page _____ to Page _____

Words Person

Name _____

Book Title _____

Words Person's job: Read and enjoy this section of the book. As you are reading, or after you have read, pick out three words you aren't sure about, words that sound odd or musical to your "inner" ear, or words that you might like to know and use. Find out the meaning (definition) and write the word and definition down here.

1. Paragraph and page _____ Word _____
Definition _____
2. Paragraph and page _____ Word _____
Definition _____
3. Paragraph and page _____ Word _____
Definition _____

Reading Plan: Page _____ to Page _____

Researcher

Name _____

Book Title _____

The Researcher's Job: Read and enjoy this section of the book. While you are reading, find out about your book. Read a book review, talk to a teacher who knows the book or look online for information on the book or the writer.

Record three research discoveries below

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Reading Plan: Page _____ to Page _____