Fiction Response Journal Prompts

Read the selection and write a response. Begin each response with the book title and the date of your journal entry. Response ideas:

♦ Tell about what happened in the story.
♦ Ask questions about things that confuse you or that you wonder about.
♦ Describe your feelings about the characters, setting, or the events.
♦ Copy down a quote from a character and tell why you think it’s meaningful.
♦ Describe your favorite part.
♦ Make a prediction about what will happen next. Explain why you feel this way.
♦ Tell how you would react if you were one of the characters in the story.
♦ Describe a part that surprised you.
♦ Does the author use any strong imagery in the story (similes, metaphors, etc.)? Give examples and tell why you like them.
♦ Write a letter to the author or a character.
♦ Draw pictures or create graphic organizers.

Nonfiction Journal Prompts

Read the selection and write a response. Begin each response with the book title and the date of your journal entry. Response ideas:

♦ Before you read the book . . .
  ♦ What do you know about the topic before getting started on the book?
  ♦ What do you want to learn?
  ♦ Why did you choose this book?

♦ While reading the book . . .
  ♦ What information surprised you?
  ♦ How can you use this information in your life?
  ♦ What information do you question or think might not be correct? How might you verify it or find out more?
  ♦ What is the most important thing you have learned? Why?
  ♦ What is the most interesting thing you read?
  ♦ Discuss the text structure used in the book.
  ♦ What techniques does the author use to make this information easy to understand?
  ♦ Where do you think you could look for more information on this topic?