

How to Lead a Literature Circle (Discussion Director)

Use the following steps to help you lead today's Literature Circle meeting. Try to involve everyone in the discussion, and remember to keep the group on task.

1. Summarize

- Ask someone to summarize the selection. Discuss the summary. Allow other members to add details that may have been forgotten.

2. Discuss Vocabulary

- Have each person share one word they selected. Ask them to read the sentence and/or paragraph from which the word came. Ask the group to make educated guesses about the word. Allow the person to give the dictionary definition and discuss its meaning.

3. Share Questions and Answers

- Ask everyone to choose their very best question to read aloud to the group. Remind them that the question should be designed to spark a discussion and make everyone think. Let each person read their question and allow them to choose at least one person to respond to the question.
- Read the Teacher Question and call on several people to share their answers.

4. Present Graphic Organizers

- Ask one or more people to share the way they completed their graphic organizer. Allow group members to discuss the material briefly.

5. Chat About the Book

If you have extra time, talk over questions like the following:

- How did you feel while reading this part of the book?
- Did anything in this section surprise you?
- What was the most exciting, interesting, funny, or confusing part? Would someone like to read that paragraph or section aloud?
- What kinds of connections can you make between things that happened in the book and something in your own life?

6. Wrap Up

- Ask students to make predictions about what will happen next.
- Make sure everyone knows what the reading assignment is for the upcoming week.

