

Independent Reading

Independent Reading Prompts

Directions: Remember to record responses to **research reading in the front** of your independent reading journal and responses to **choice reading in the back**. Try to choose a different prompt each time.

Record any new vocabulary in your vocabulary log. Remember, academic vocabulary is recorded in the front, and domain-specific vocabulary (words about the topic) is recorded in the back. Mark vocabulary found during independent reading with a symbol—an asterisk (*), for example.

Record:

- Date
- Title and author of your reading book
- Pages you have read
- Prompt
- Response

Example:

Date: 04/08/2015

Book Title and Author: *Animal Behavior: Animal Defenses* by Christina Wilsdon

Pages Read: 63–84

Prompt: *What questions do you have about animals or animal defenses after reading?*

Response: What are some animals in my local area that emit scent as a defense?

- **Record two or three facts in your own words about animals or animal defenses that you found out in your research reading today.**
- **What questions do you have about animals or animal defenses after reading?**
- **What would you like to research further after reading? Why?**
- **Summarize your research reading today in no more than four sentences.**
- **How would you describe the setting of the particular part of the text you read?**
 - Hint: What did you picture in your mind as you were reading it? Why?
 - Hint: What did it say in the text to make you think that?
- **What do you think is going to happen next? Why?**
 - Hint: What has the author written so far to make you think that?

- **Summarize the pages you just read in no more than four sentences.**
- **What is the main idea of the part of the text you just read?**
 - Hint: The main idea is the point the author wants you to understand.
- **Think about the title of your text. Why do you think the author chose this title?**
 - Hint: Explain how the title fits the book.
 - Hint: Start out: “The title of my book is.... The author chose this title because....”
- **What are two new words you learned in this text? Tell about the words.**
- **Choose a picture, chart, graph, or diagram from your text. Explain how the information you learned from the image helped you understand the text.**
 - Hint: First, think about the main idea of what you just read. Then, think about how the picture, chart, graph, or diagram supports the main idea.