



Discussion Leader

Name _____

Book _____

Create 12 thoughtful questions for your group to answer orally. You must create three discussion questions from each level (literal, inferential, and interpretive). You may choose from the critical question starters below, or design your own. These questions must relate to the section of the text you were assigned.

When your group meets, you facilitate the question and answer session. Be sure to encourage all group members to contribute as well as include your own thoughts. You may be asked to answer these questions in your journal.

Right There Questions (Literal Questions): The answer is right there in the story. You can point to the answer. The words used to make up the question are often the same words that are in the answer.

Define the meaning of _____

Where was _____

Name as many _____

Describe in your own words _____

What happened when _____

What are the characters doing to solve the problem of _____

Which character _____

Create your own literal questions: _____



Discussion Leader *(cont.)*

Think and Search (Inferential Questions): The answer is in the text, but it needs to be put together with different pieces of information from the book. You have to think and search for the answer.

How would you compare _____

Choose the best _____

How could the character _____

What is the difference between _____

Create your own inferential questions: _____

The Author and Me (Interpretive Questions): You need to think about what you know and what the author has said in the text. The answer will be from both the author and you as you infer meaning. The answer won't be found on the printed page, but the information to answer the question is there.

Predict what would happen if _____

Why did the author include _____

Can you prove that _____

What was the author's purpose when _____

What will happen when _____

Why did the character _____

Create your own interpretive questions: _____



Discussion Leader (cont.)

My Own Thoughts: The answer is not in the story. The question is asking for your own thoughts about something in the story. It can be creative or open-ended and there is no right or wrong answer, but the answer should be supported by the text and your personal experiences and beliefs.

Assess how I would feel if _____

How would I improve _____

How did I feel when _____

Why do I think _____

Was it fair when _____

Create "My Own Thoughts" questions: _____

Adapted from Daniels, H. *Literature Circles: Voice and Choice in the Student-Centered Classroom*. York, ME: Stenhouse Publishers, 1994.

