

SPEED DATING

Purpose: To provide students with a structured time to talk to other students about a book they have recently read and for students to get reading ideas from their peers. RL.8.10

Prepare:

- Arrange the classroom into two circles, an outer circle and an inner circle. Each outer circle desk should be facing an inner circle desk.
- Everyone will need a partner.
- Make copies of the questionnaire (see below)
- Encourage students to bring a physical copy of their book.

Instructions:

- Divide the class into two groups (random, by gender, etc.)
- One group will sit in the outer circle, one group will sit in the inner circle. Again, an outer circle student should be facing an inner circle partner.
- Hand out the questionnaire. Explain that the questionnaire has the questions they can ask each other about the book they brought with them. There are mandatory questions that must be asked/answered and additional questions that should be asked when all mandatory questions have been asked/answered. The questionnaire also has a recommendations section! Students will need to write down the title of 3 books that sound interesting to them.
- **Rotations should:** Begin with each partner asking/answering the mandatory “Get to know you” questions. After that they can ask as many extra questions as time will allow. The goal is to thoroughly get to know each person’s book. Remind students that their answers should be brief so that each person can ask/answer questions. Books that sound interesting to them should go on their recommendations list. **They only need to fill out the title/author section during the rotation.**
 - Each rotation should last 2-4 minutes (depending on class size). Students need to ask/respond to as many questions as possible in that time allowance. Ring a bell, set a timer on your board, etc. to let students know when to rotate. **Students need to rotate without verbal prompts to keep this activity rolling.** I usually give students 10-15 seconds to switch desks and then start the timer again.
 - To make the rotation simple, have the **outer group only** move one desk to their right.
 - The rotation is complete when students return back to the desk they started in.
- Give students a few remaining minutes to answer the “This sounds interesting because...” portion of the recommendation section.
- Have students turn in their questionnaire as an exit ticket when they leave. Give students credit for writing down recommendations and explaining why they think they will like the book.
- Hand the recommendations back to students the following day.

NAME: _____

PERIOD: _____

SPEED DATING QUESTIONNAIRE

Get-To-Know-You (Mandatory) Questions:

- WHAT'S YOUR TITLE?
- WHO'S YOUR AUTHOR?
- WHAT GENRE DO YOU BELONG TO?

Additional Questions:

- BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE THE PLOT. NO SPOILERS!
- WHAT IS THE SETTING OF YOUR BOOK?
- WHAT'S THE MAIN CONFLICT?
- WHAT IS THE GREATEST CHALLENGE THAT THE PROTAGONIST FACES?
- WHO WAS YOUR FAVORITE CHARACTER AND WHY?
- WHAT MAKES THE PROTAGONISTS SUCH A BAD GUY/GAL?
- EXPLAIN YOUR FAVORITE SCENE FROM THE BOOK.
- WHAT AWARDS HAS YOUR BOOK WON?
- HAS YOUR BOOK BEEN MADE INTO A MOVIE?
- WHO WOULD YOU RECOMMEND THIS BOOK TO?
- **Write your own Question:**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. TITLE: _____ AUTHOR: _____
THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING BECAUSE...

2. TITLE: _____ AUTHOR: _____
THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING BECAUSE...

3. TITLE: _____ AUTHOR: _____
THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING BECAUSE...

Additional books I found Interesting:

NAME: _____

PERIOD: _____

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➤ **Write your own
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