

Lesson 1: What Independent Reading Looks Like

Supplies Needed:

- Chart paper
- Markers
- Individual student book bags or baskets

Procedure:

- Ask students what independent reading should look like.
- Record responses on a chart paper titled “What Independent Reading Looks Like in Our Classroom”
 - Students reading the whole time
 - Quiet/ whisper voice if buddy reading or discussing with a friend
 - Students choose a spot where they will stay the whole time
 - Eyes and mind on the book
 - All students reading “just right” books
 - Teacher is reading with individual students
 - (Record other relevant suggestions from students)
- As a class, discuss what everyone needs to do to make independent reading work. Discuss what you will be doing as the teacher and why it is so very important to them as growing readers.
- Have students get book bags or baskets and find a good reading spot to practice what’s on the chart paper. Begin independent reading time. You can choose to begin conferencing, or you might want to circulate the room to let students know what they are doing correctly and how they are doing at following the new independent reading “rules” you created as a class.
- When independent reading time is over, gather together to revisit your anchor chart and discuss what went well or what the class needs to work on. Add new ideas to the chart if they are shared at this time. You could also record student responses about things that didn’t go well so that they can be briefly discussed before the next few independent reading times.

Notes: _____
