

Triumphant Learning™



How to prepare the narration ideas

- Print the master list of narration ideas, and keep it with your teacher planning materials. This list includes ideas for primary through high school aged students.
- Print the narration cards. The cards are designed for primary-aged students.
- Cut the cards apart, stack them, and stand them in a 4 oz jelly jar.
- A page of blank cards is provided for you to add your own ideas.

How to use the narration ideas

- As you plan narrations, use the master list of narration ideas.
- Use the narration jar for primary-aged students to add variety to their narrations.
- If you do not have a narration planned, have your student pull a card from the narration jar after he has completed a reading. You may indicate whether he should draw a card that requires less time or more time to complete.

	Requires less time to complete		Requires more time to complete
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- After completing the activity, place the card in the back of the stack so you will cycle through all of the ideas instead of repeatedly using the same one.
- To learn more about narration, visit:
www.triumphantlearning.com/narration-evaluating-student-knowledge/

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Master List of Narration Ideas

Requires less time to complete

Appropriate for all ages. Applies to most readings.

- Act out a favorite part of the story.
- Ask mom five questions related to what you read. (Quiz mom.)
- Contrast how things were done in the story with how it is done today (i.e. transportation now compared to the past).
- Describe a favorite scene in the story.
- From your reading, name three things for which a person is remembered.
- If you could spend a day with one of the characters from the story, who would you choose? Why? What would you do with him or her?
- Mom narrates.
- Play beanbag toss group narration. One person begins narrating, then tosses the beanbag to someone else and says, "And then..." The person who catches the beanbag continues the narration from where the previous person stopped.
- Predict what may happen next.
- Pretend to be a reporter who is reporting "live" from an event in the story.
- Roll the narration cube and follow the directions.
- Set up the scene you just heard or read about with blocks, toys, Legos, figurines, etc.
- Skip the narration today.
- Tell all you know about . . . (for example, the habits of a bluejay or Christopher Columbus sailing across the Atlantic).
- Tell five things you learned from the reading.
- Tell how you might have done things differently if you were a character in the story.
- Tell something new you learned from the reading.
- Tell the story in your own words.
- Using a recording device, tell what happened in the story.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Requires less time to complete

Appropriate for older students. May not apply to all readings.

- Compare or contrast a character in this story to a character in a similar story.
- Compare or contrast two rulers about which you read. Under whose rule would you rather live and why?
- Compose and answer five questions related to the material you read.
- Create an alternate title for the book. How is it better than the one the book has now?
- Describe a difficult situation faced by a character in the book and how he or she resolved it. Describe an alternative way he or she could have approached the situation.
- Describe any clues left by the author pointing to a possible twist in the plot.
- Is there a character in this book with whom you have similar interests or personality traits? What are the similarities?
- Tell how the setting, characters, or plot reminds you of another story.
- Tell whether a character's actions are godly or ungodly, and why.
- Find a quote in the story that would be a good motto.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Requires more time to complete

Appropriate for all ages. Applies to most readings.

- Compose a poem about the story which you heard or read.
- Compose and perform an original song about the passage you just heard or read.
- Create a comic strip based on the reading.
- Create and perform a puppet show or shadow puppet show depicting what you heard or read.
- Create and record a news broadcast that summarizes the events in the story.
- Draw a picture of a character in the story and tell about the character.
- Draw a picture of an event in the story. Explain what is happening in the picture.
- Finish these sentences: This book made me wish that... This book made me hope that... I wonder why...
- Invite one of the characters to dinner. Design an invitation including what food you will serve and games or entertainment you will provide.
- Make a time line of the events in the book.
- Make a Venn diagram of the ways you are similar to and different from one of the characters in the story.
- Make an ID card that belongs to one of the characters including a picture and all information found on an ID card.
- Make paper dolls and clothing for characters in the story.
- Prepare a recipe that would be appropriate for the time period, geographic location, or culture of the story. (Older students can record their entry on a recipe card.)
- Send a postcard as if from one of the characters. Draw a picture on one side and write a message on the other.
- Using materials around the house, create something that was used or mentioned in the story.
- What gift would you give a character in the book? Design a greeting card to go along with your gift. In the greeting, explain why you selected the gift.
- Write, or dictate to mom, a journal or diary entry from a character's point of view.
- Write, or dictate to mom, a letter from one character to another.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Requires more time to complete

Appropriate for older students. May not apply to all readings.

- Compose and record a radio show dramatizing the events about which you read.
- Compose interview questions for a character in the book.
- Copy two important or interesting quotations from the reading. Explain why you chose them.
- Create a crossword puzzle based on the reading.
- Create a poster related to the reading.
- Create a quiz based on the story using true/false, multiple choice, or fill-in-the blank questions.
- Create a word search based on the reading.
- Create and perform a one-act play about the story.
- Create the front page of a newspaper. Include an article about the story, ads, weather, and any other elements that would give the feel of the time period.
- Describe a character's worldview. Compare it to a Biblical worldview.
- Describe and/or draw a theme park based upon this book.
- Design a game based on the reading. Write a description of the game's components. Include in your description: 1) The name of the game. 2) The format of the game. (Is it a board game, card game, matching game, etc.?) 3) Six sample questions, if questions are used in playing the game. 4) Basic rules of the game such as how the players move their pawns around the board, how points are scored, and how the game is won.
- Find and define five new or important words from the reading.
- Find Bible verses related to character qualities of a person in the story.
- Make a list of characters and tell how they are important to the story.
- Make a travel brochure inviting tourists to visit a location mentioned in the book. What types of activities would there be for them to attend?
- Make or draw a model of a machine about which you read and explain how it works.
- Many movie DVDs have a special features option such as songs from the movie, deleted scenes, quizzes, or interviews. Create one special feature for a DVD based on this book.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Requires more time to complete

Appropriate for older students. May not apply to all readings.

- Obtain a job application from the internet. Fill out the application as if you were one of the characters in the book.
- Practice and then read to your family a favorite scene from the book.
- Pretend you are the author and write a letter to your publisher summarizing a key scene. Explain why this scene is important to the story.
- Pretend you will join the characters in the story for one week and can only bring one suitcase. What will you pack?
- The environment of a story could include material belongings, working conditions, weather conditions, political situations, wars, or geographical setting. Research the environment of this story and present your findings, including why this was important to the story.
- Select one character from the book who has the qualities of a hero or heroine. List their qualities.
- Sew a costume or doll costume that would be appropriate for the time period.
- What are the main ideas found in the book?
- Choose a character from the story who would be a good role model. List qualities to support your choice.
- Write a letter to a grandparent or friend explaining something interesting you learned.
- Write a letter requesting an interview with one of the characters. Include in the letter the questions you would ask.
- Write a review of the book for Amazon. (You do not have to publish it.)
- Write an alternate beginning for the story.
- Write an alternate ending for the story.
- Write an obituary for a character in the book.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Math Narrations

- Compose two problems that require using the concept you learned. (Older students could compose more problems.)
- Demonstrate with manipulatives the concept you learned.
- Design and construct a game that will practice the math concept learned. Teach mom how to play the game.
- Draw an illustration of a word problem.
- Explain to mom the concept you learned. (Teach mom.)
- Prepare a short video demonstrating or teaching the concept you learned.
- Tell how or when you would use the concept learned in other settings. (Older students.)
- Write a word problem utilizing the concept learned.

Composer Study Narrations

- Choreograph a dance to the music.
- Compose a poem inspired by the musical work you studied.
- Compose a song inspired by the melody.
- Compose original lyrics to the main theme of the piece.
- Create a comic strip based on the piece.
- Does this selection remind you of another song or composer?
- Draw a picture inspired by the work.
- Finish these sentences: This musical selection made me feel... I heard... I wonder why...
- Make-up a puppet show inspired by the music. Perform the show for your family.
- Write, or dictate to mom, a letter to a grandparent describing the work you studied.
- Write, or dictate to mom, a story about what might be happening with the selection as background music. For example, does the music inspire a military march, a picnic in the park, or a ballet?

Master List of Narration Ideas

Science and Nature Study Narrations

- Design a game that will review the material learned.
- Design a science experiment that demonstrates the concept you learned.
- Draw, sketch, or paint a picture of the concept studied (for example, the life cycle of a butterfly, a maple leaf, or the main body sections of an insect).
- Explain the process you just studied.
- Write a short story involving the concept you learned.

Picture Study Narrations

- Compose a poem inspired by the picture you studied.
- Create a comic strip based on the picture.
- Create an alternate title for the picture. Why is it better than the one the picture has now?
- Does this picture remind you of another picture or artist?
- Draw a rough sketch of the picture studied.
- Finish these sentences: This picture made me feel... I saw... I wonder why...
- Set up the scene in the picture you just studied with blocks, toys, Legos, figurines, etc.
- What do you notice about the picture, such as colors, shapes, or lighting.
- Write a story about what might be happening in the picture.
- Write, or dictate to mom, a letter to a grandparent describing the picture you studied.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Geography Narrations

- Plan a virtual vacation. Where would you go based on what you read in the book? How would you travel there? What would you do, see, or eat?
- Design a travel brochure.
- Host a travel show. Compile pictures to make a slideshow showcasing the area. (He could interview siblings that also read the book or compose questions he would ask to local inhabitants if he read the book on his own.)
- Prepare a scrapbook of the area.
- Sketch a map of the area including major cities or rivers.
- Record the traveler's journey on a map.
- Trace a map of the area. (See the video instructions.)
- Create a three dimensional map if you studied topographical features.
- Send a postcard to someone describing the area about which you read.
- Pretend to be the traveler in the story and send a postcard describing your adventure.
- What are (3-5) things you would include in a news article about this location?
- Write a review for a travel site. (You do not need to post it.)
- Make an entry in a travel journal as if you were the traveler in the story. (View a video tutorial of how to make a travel journal here: <http://www.triumphantlearning.com/diy-travel-journal/>)

Hands-on Narrations While Traveling

- Design a scene from your visit. (Materials could include sand, clay, play dough, salt dough, cardboard, dolls, or action figures. Or, your child could create a diorama. Examples include cliff dwellings, Plymouth Plantation, how locks work, etc.)
- Make a craft that represents the area you visited.
- Demonstrate a concept you learned. (Examples include demonstrations or exhibits at a children's museum or science museum.)
- Sketch a map of the area you visited. (Do not expect a map drawn to scale. Rough placement of locations of interest are sufficient.)
- Trace the route of our travels on an atlas.

Master List of Narration Ideas

Oral Narrations While Traveling

- Tell me what you remember about the site we just visited.
- Tell me about (insert a specific experience or subject such as dolphin care if you visited an aquarium or how pulleys work if you visited a science museum).
- Pretend to be an employee of the site we just visited and take us on a tour.
- What did you like most about the visit?
- What was something new you learned about the site? (This question could also apply to a time period or subject. For example, if you visited Gettysburg you might have learned more about the Civil War.)
- How did what you learned during the visit compare to what we previously read or learned about it?
- Pretend to be a reporter and interview your brother as if he were an archeologist at the site. Optional: Record this with video or audio.
- What are (3-5) things you would write about in a news article about this location?
- Was the site what you expected it to be? Why or why not?
- Would you recommend this site to a friend? Why or why not?

Written Narrations While Traveling

- Any of the oral narration ideas as a written narration.
- Draw a sketch of something you saw during our visit.
- Draw a sketch of your favorite (art print, animal, or landscape).
- Write a review for a travel site. (You do not need to post it.)
- Send a postcard to someone and tell them an interesting fact about this site.
- Make an entry in a travel journal. (View a video tutorial of how to make a travel journal here: <http://www.triumphantlearning.com/diy-travel-journal/>)



Act out a favorite part of the story.



If you could spend a day with one of the characters from the story, who would you choose? Why? What would you do with him or her?



Roll the narration cube and follow the directions.



Ask mom five questions related to what you read. (Quiz mom.)



Mom narrates.



Set up the scene you just heard or read about with blocks, toys, Legos, figurines, etc.



Contrast how things were done in the story with how it is done today (i.e. transportation now compared to the past).



Play beanbag toss group narration.



Skip the narration today.



Describe a favorite scene in the story.



Predict what may happen next.



Tell all you know about . . . (for example, the habits of a bluejay or Christopher Columbus sailing across the Atlantic).



From your reading, name three things for which a person is remembered.



Pretend to be a reporter who is reporting "live" from an event in the story.



Tell five things you learned from the reading.



Tell how you might have done things differently if you were a character in the story.



Compose and perform an original song about the passage you just heard or read.



Draw a picture of an event in the story. Explain what is happening in the picture.



Tell something new you learned from the reading.



Create a comic strip based on the reading.



Finish these sentences: This book made me wish that... This book made me hope that... I wonder why...



Tell the story in your own words.



Create and perform a puppet show or shadow puppet show depicting what you heard or read.



Invite one of the characters to dinner. Design an invitation including what food you will serve and games or entertainment you will provide.



Using a recording device, tell what happened in the story.



Create and record a news broadcast that summarizes the events in the story.



Make a time line of the events in the book.



Compose a poem about the story which you heard or read.



Draw a picture of a character in the story and tell about the character.



Make a Venn diagram of the ways you are similar to and different from one of the characters in the story.



Make an ID card that belongs to one of the characters including a picture and all information found on an ID card.



What gift would you give a character in the book?
Design a greeting card to go along with your gift. In the greeting, explain why you selected the gift.



Make paper dolls and clothing for characters in the story.



Write, or dictate to mom, a journal or diary entry from a character's point of view.



Prepare a recipe that would be appropriate for the time period, geographic location, or culture of the story.



Write, or dictate to mom, a letter from one character to another.



Send a postcard as if from one of the characters. Draw a picture on one side and write a message on the other.



Using materials around the house, create something that was used or mentioned in the story.





