

Independent Reading Product Ideas

Remember that some books will lend themselves to certain types of products.

Alternative Ending: rewrite the ending of the story.

Back story/Deleted Scene: write a scene to serve as the backstory to the book or add in a scene where you feel is necessary.

Board game: create a board game using the characters and events of your story (chutes and ladders is a good pattern) using problems from the book as ways to get ahead or to be put back.

Book Sleeve: create a cover art and a summary for the back and front of the book based on your interpretation.

Character Interview: create 10 questions to ask your character and then respond as if you are the character.

Children's Book: Create a short story based on the theme/lesson your character learns in the story. Then illustrate it and make it into a book.

Comic: create a comic or graphic novel style story of a main event from your book.

Commercial/Video: create a commercial pitch for your book and make a video enticing others to read the book.

Conflict-resolution: choose three conflicts that take place in the story and give alternative solutions to the conflicts based on what you would have done.

Debate: hold a public debate with evidence about a situation or event in your story.

Letter to the author: write a letter to the author reflecting on how you feel about the book.

Letter to the editor: write a letter to the editor of a newspaper based on a situation or event in a story. You could look at examples of "letters to the editor" in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel <http://www.jsonline.com>.

Movie push: imagine that you are the author of the book you have just read. Suddenly the book becomes a best-seller. Write a letter to a movie producer trying to get that person interested in making your book into a movie. Explain why the story, characters, conflicts, etc., would make a good film. Suggest a filming location and the actors to play various roles.

Newscast: be a TV or radio reporter, and give a report of a scene from the book as if it is happening "live". You can record yourself or present to your advisory.

Newspaper: create a newspaper for your book. Cover two events in articles, cover the weather in another, and do a feature story on one of the more interesting characters. Include an editorial and a collection of ads that would be pertinent to the story. Format the newspaper and print it as if would be distributed.

Online book review: find a website that allows public to review books and submit a formal review of your book. Give your advisor the website where the review can be found.

Play scene: script out an event from your book in play format including dialogue and stage direction.

Poetry: create and perform a poem based on a character, theme, or event in the story to your advisory.

Resume and cover letter: create a job resume based on one character from the book and write a cover letter to a business that might hire your character.

Song: write and perform an original song that tells the story or theme of the book.

Reversed Language: rewrite a scene from your book in current, modern language (if it is not currently in it) or rewrite a scene from your book in “older language” like people would have spoken back then (if it is not currently in it).

Start over: rewrite the beginning of the story

Story analysis: write a five-paragraph essay about the theme of your story.

Other: Talk to your advisor for more product ideas. You can also come up with your own ideas and share with your advisor.