**15 Book Reading Challenge**

Students in three classes synthesized these benefits, hurdles, and solutions to the fifteen book reading challenge. They also defined the purpose for the challenge. Look for your ideas. Thank you for thinking so thoroughly through this! You are showing excellent use of divergent and convergent thinking.

**Purpose:**

* To create a challenge that gets students to read across many genres, while still giving them the freedom to explore books of their choice.
* To create a class environment where everyone shares and recommends the best books.
* For students to grow as readers, often stepping into the life of another person and considering life from his or her point of view.

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| **The “challenges” to overcoming this challenge** | **Solutions** |
| Distractions, especially at home, like technology, siblings, extracurricular activities, etc.  | \* Some reading time in class (usually 15 minutes) \* some time at home to continue reading (30 minutes)\* remove electronics from where you are reading. |
| The length of time for the challenge/ Avoiding procrastination | \* If possible, set a routine for homework.\* Set checkpoints. |
| Staying motivated | \* Set goals. Students who read 3.2 books/month will be on track.\* Create suggestions for other students.\* (Suggestions for individual students as well as suggestions for the whole group like through a poster or online database.)\* Break your reading at a cliffhanger so that you want to come back to the book.\*Read with a friend by racing or competing. |
| People read on different levels | \* This challenge meets students where they are, allowing students to read at their level and grow at their pace.\* Students who are slow can read a little more each night to practice.\* Progress monitoring to ensure growth. |
| People read at different speeds | \* Allows students to read at their own pace*\* Books over 200 pages are worth two books.* |
| Finding time each day | \* Find the right time of day to read for you. Some students like to read before they fall asleep. Others read on the bus or before school.\* Read while you wait—all those times when you are stuck somewhere like on the bus, in line, etc. |
| Finding the right books to engage me and/or having a reading “allergy” | \* Create suggestions for individual students as well as suggestions for the whole group.\* Take trips to the library.\* Read in a genre you enjoy.\* Pick a topic you enjoy and find a book on that.\* Use the internet, like Goodreads, to find suggestions.\* Find books that make you feel that you are in them. |
| Starting an uninteresting book | Abandon it if you hate it or ask another student who has read it if it gets better. |
| Stress | Just do it! (This came from multiple students, not me.) |

**Tracking our checkpoints:**

* **Goal of number of books/month: 3.2 Books/ Month**
* **Class competition**
* **Weekly checks with students, notecard journals**
* **Quizzes to boost our grades**
* **Discuss and share the writing tasks at some points**
* **Some books in groups so we can discuss them**
* **Chart the progress of the group**
* **Final checkpoint is a prize**

**Final Project: *Let’s Go to the Movies***