BOOK REPORT ALTERNATIVES

Oral
1. Prepare an oral report that lasts at least 5 minutes. Make sure you include plot and characters. Answer any questions classmates have at the end of the presentation.
2. Have a panel discussion when several students read the same book.
3. Dramatically read a part of the book to the class to get them interested.
4. Prepare a chart showing the characters, their relationships, and a few biographical facts about each.
5. Give a testimonial speech citing the character for special distinctions noted in the book.
6. Pretend other students are clerks in a bookstore. "Sell" them your book by giving a good sales pitch.
7. Research the period of history in which the story is set and share with the class.
8. Explain why you think this book will/will not be read a hundred years from now. Support your viewpoint by making specific references to the characters and plot.
9. Twenty questions. Three classmates are each assigned the role of one of the characters in the book. You and your fellow classmates have to figure out which person is which character. Only 20 questions may be used. Create the questions that you and your classmates can use to figure out the identity of each of the three students.

Written
10. Be a newspaper columnist; write a review for the book section.
11. Write a newspaper article based on an incident from the book.
12. Write a biography of the main character, using information from the book.
13. Tell the general effect of the book on you. What made you feel the way you did?
14. Report on any new, interesting or challenging ideas you gained through reading the book.
15. Make a list of the five to ten significant questions about this book that you think anyone who reads it should be able to answer.
16. Conduct an interview of your favorite character in the book. Prepare at least 10 questions that the character can be asked. Choose a fellow classmate to portray the "Interviewer" and you portray the character, answering the questions.
17. Write a journal/diary that one of the main characters could have kept. Be sure and include not only events but also the characters thoughts and feelings.
18. Write a letter to a main character in the book. Ask questions of give advice on the situations in the story.
19. Q & A - Pretend you're interviewing a person from the book. Write your interview in question and answer format.
Artistic
20. Prepare a travel brochure of where your story takes place. Make your readers want to visit this place. Include pictures and details.
22. Draw a scene the way you see it. Write or tape your explanations of why you drew the scene the way you did and why.

The Above activities and ideas were created by Patti Connolly

The following “recipe” is from: http://www.teachersdesk.org/readreport.html

Book Report Recipe
Students write these reports on simulated recipe cards that are then displayed on a bulletin board.

1 cup of plot
Tell briefly what the story is about, but don't give away the ending.

2 teaspoons of characters
Who are the main characters? Describe them briefly.

2 tablespoons of excitement
Select a short passage from the book that describes something exciting that happened. Try to find a passage that has the main character in it.

Mix thoroughly and bake. When cool, frost with this special icing:
1/2 cup of opinion
What did you like about the book? What didn't you like?

1 teaspoon of recommendation
Whom do you think would enjoy this book? Why?

Finally sprinkle on the following information:
title of book
name of author
name of publisher
number of pages
literary genre