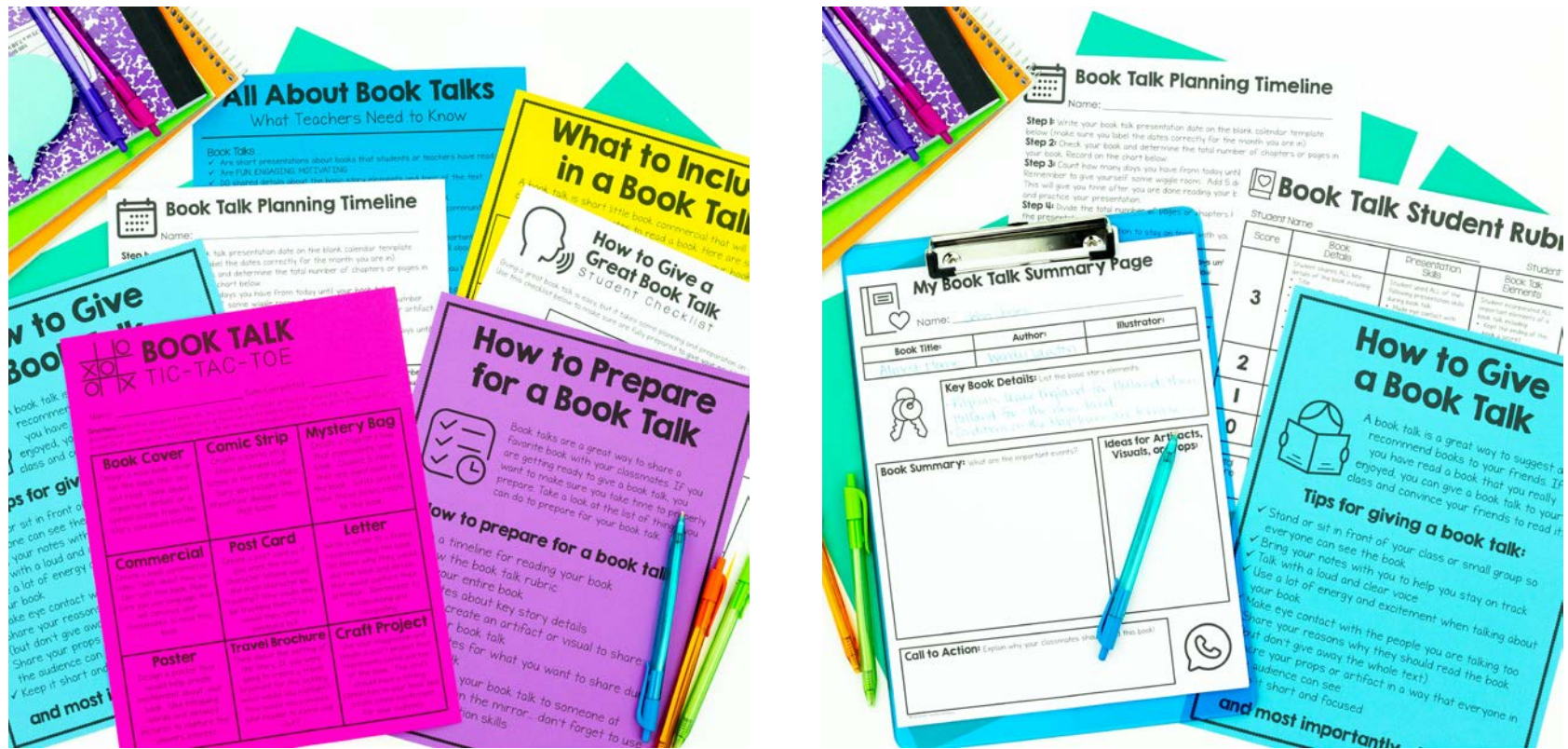


GETTING STARTED WITH BOOK TALKS



Includes Teacher Guide, Planning Pages, and TONS of Student Templates

How to Prepare for a Book Talk

Book talks are a great way to share a favorite book with your classmates. If you are getting ready to give a book talk, you want to make sure you take time to prepare. This book talk checklist will help you get ready to give your next book talk.



How to Give a Great Book Talk Student Checklist

Giving a great book talk is easy, but it takes some planning and preparation on your part. Use this checklist below to make sure you are fully prepared to give your next book talk.

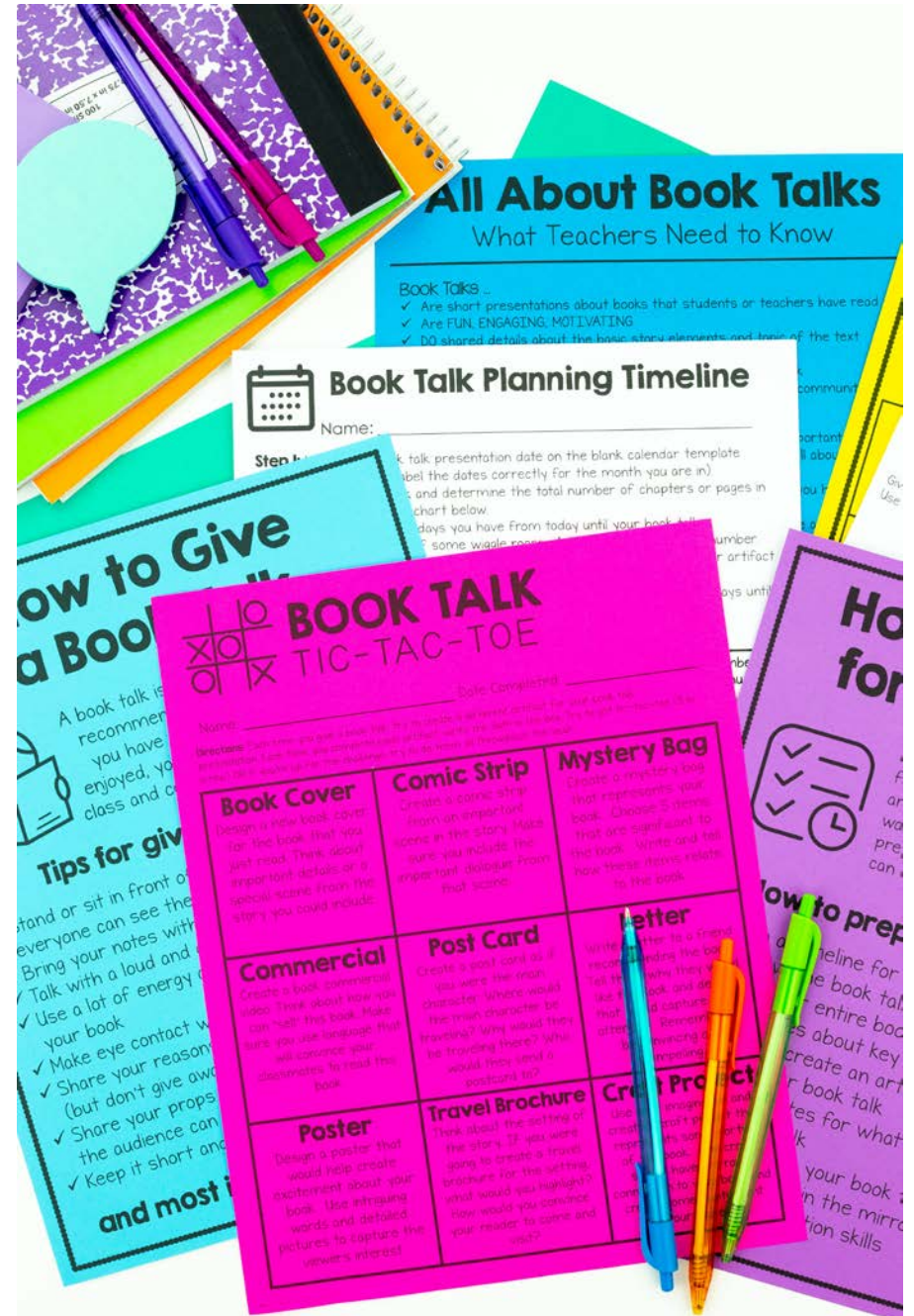
	Student Action Items	Check When Completed
Book Selection	Choose a book that is interesting and engaging to you	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Timeline	Create a timeline to complete reading the book by your Book Talk date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Book Details	Be sure to include these details in your book talk. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Title/Author/IllustratorFiction Character, Setting, Problem, Solution, ThemeNonfiction Topic, Main Idea, Supporting DetailsThe most interesting part orYour favorite part	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prepare Your Artifact	Choose from the artifact list. Remember that what will be displayed in our classroom library or in our Book Talk Binder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Be Creative	Think of a way to set your Book Talk apart and make it interesting for your classmates - Costume, props, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Practice	Think about the following things when practicing your book talk. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Make eye contact with audienceSpoke in a voice that everyone could hearShare a visual with the classBe prepared	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't Tell the ending!	Remember Book talks do not tell the ending or all the details of the book. You want your classmates to be excited to read your book.	<input type="checkbox"/>

This resource has **EVERYTHING** you need to get started with book talks in your classroom!

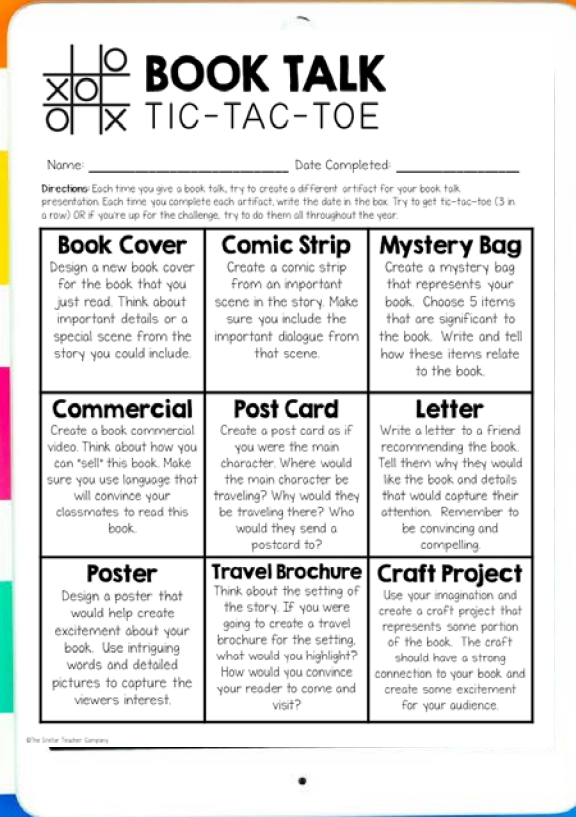
WHAT'S INCLUDED?

This resource includes everything from a teacher guide to help you learn how to get book talks started to anchor charts to help you introduce and model book talks... from parent and community invitations to ideas for holiday book talks. With this complete resource you'll have everything you need to implement a successful book talk routine.

- Book Talks Teacher Guide
- Parent Letter/Invitation
- Community Invitation
- 5 Anchor Charts
- Student Rubric
- Active Listener Checklist
- Student Planning Pages
- 9 Different Student Artifact Templates and Tic-Tac-Toe Board
- Ideas for Seasonal Book Talks



WHAT'S INCLUDED?



Includes digital versions of the student templates!

A LOOK INSIDE...

All About Book Talks

What Teachers Need to Know

Book Talks ...

- ✓ Are short presentations about books that students or teachers have read
- ✓ Are FUN, ENGAGING, MOTIVATING
- ✓ DO shared details about the basic story elements and topic of the text
- ✓ DO NOT give away the ending
- ✓ Should convince your classmates or friends to read your book
- ✓ Can be given by students, teachers, or any member of your community

Steps to Implementation:

1. Use the included anchor charts to teach students all the important parts of giving a book talk. We suggest you spend one week learning all about book clubs and teach one mini-lesson a day.
2. Model what a book talk will look like by sharing about a book you have read or present a digital book talk.
3. Provide students with resources that will help them prepare a book talk.
4. Allow students to choose a book to read for their book talk and have them sign-up to give a book talk.
5. Give students time to present.

When should we use them?

- The more often the better!
- We suggest having regular book talk times incorporated into your weekly or monthly schedule.
- You can have students share their book talk to the entire class or in small groups or even to just one other student.
- Try to create a schedule that allows your students to give multiple book talks during the year.

Why should we do them?

- Book talks are a great way to get students excited about reading new books.
- Book talks can help students choose new books to read independently.
- Book talks help students develop strong presentation skills.
- Book talks can help students build confidence about their reading identities.

All About Book Talks

What Parents Need to Know

Dear Special Adult,

We just learned how to give book talks to our classmates and are so excited to share some of our favorite book titles. Book talks are a great way to build excitement about reading, share and recommend books to friends and motivate students to read.

We would like to invite you to come in and share your favorite book with our class.

Sincerely,
Your child's teacher

Book Talks ...

- ✓ Are short presentations about favorite books that we have read
- ✓ Are FUN, ENGAGING, MOTIVATING
- ✓ DO share details about the basic story elements or topic
- ✓ DO NOT give away the ending
- ✓ Should convince your classmates or friends to read your book
- ✓ Are an important part of our classroom culture

If you would like to volunteer to give a book talk to our class, please send in the following:

Adult's Name: _____

Best Email or Phone #: _____

Student's Name: _____

- I would love to come in and share a book talk with my child's class. Please reach out to me to choose a day and time.
- I am unable to come in and share a book talk, but I would be interested in pre-recording a book talk to share with my child's class.

I am available on the following days: _____

Monthly & Holiday Themes

Ideas for Book Talk Artifacts

It can be fun to connect your book talks to current holidays or seasons. Here are a few ideas for seasonal artifacts your students can create that will help them prepare for their book talk and have some holiday fun.

Back to School School Advice

Write a letter to the main character. Give them advice about coming to your school. What should they know? What rules do they need to follow? Remember if your character is from the past, they may need tips for living today.

December A Snow Storm

Think about the main character's traits from your book. Create a comic, write a paragraph or draw a picture that shows how your character would respond to being caught in a snow storm. What would they do? How would they react?

March or April Mystery Egg

Use a plastic egg and put small pictures or items that share some of the details of your book. Remember not to include anything that might give the ending away!

October Pumpkin Characters

Decorate a pumpkin to look like a character from the book. You can use paper, paint, glue, and other craft supplies to turn a plain pumpkin into your favorite character.

January New Year's Resolutions

Think about a character from your book. Think about their challenging character traits or habits. Create a New Year's resolution for your character. Do not forget to explain why you think this should be your character's resolution.

May Drama

Choose a scene from your book and prepare a dramatic reading for your class. Remember to memorize the scene, think about your actions and how you will express the emotions and events from the scene.

November Nature Art

Use fall nature elements (leaves, sticks, twigs, acorns, rocks, etc.) to create a visual representation of the setting of the story. You can create a collage or a 3-D sculpture to represent a scene from the story.

February Valentine's Day

If the character from your book had to send another character a valentine what "valentine saying or phrase" might they use? Create the valentine that character would send.

Summer Travel Time

Create a Travel Brochure for the setting of your book! Draw or paint a picture of the setting, create a slogan and share reasons why people should visit the place described in the book.

Book Talk: Active Listener Checklist

Book Title: _____

Active Listening

- I will keep my body still
- I will look at the presenter
- I will think about what they are saying
- I will ask questions about the book
- I will be encouraging (smile, clap at the end, say good job)

A question I have about this book.

Is this book a good fit for me?

- Yes! I can't wait to read it.
- No, I think I'll pass.

Why?

Book Talk: Active Listener Checklist

Book Title: _____

Active Listening

- I will keep my body still
- I will look at the presenter
- I will think about what they are saying
- I will ask questions about the book
- I will be encouraging (smile, clap at the end, say good job)

A question I have about this book.

Is this book a good fit for me?

- Yes! I can't wait to read it.
- No, I think I'll pass.

Why?

Book Talk Planning Timeline

Name: _____

- Step 1:** Write your book talk presentation date on the blank calendar template below (make sure you label the dates correctly for the month you are in).
- Step 2:** Check your book and determine the total number of chapters or pages in your book. Record on the chart below.
- Step 3:** Count how many days you have from today until your book talk. Remember to give yourself some wiggle room. Add 5 days to your total number. This will give you time after you are done reading your book to create your artifact and practice your presentation.
- Step 4:** Divide the total number of pages or chapters by the number of days until the presentation.
- Step 5:** Use this information to stay on track with your reading.

Total number of pages or chapters in the book:	Total number of days until the presentation	Divide the total number of pages by the total number of days
_____	_____ + 5 = _____	_____

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday

My Book Talk Summary Page

Name: _____

Book Title:	Author:	Illustrator:
_____	_____	_____

Key Book Details: List the basic story elements.

Book Summary: What are the important events?

Ideas for Artifacts, Visuals, or Props:

Call to Action: Explain why your classmates should read this book!

How to Give a Great Book Talk Student Checklist

Giving a great book talk is easy, but it takes some planning and preparation on your part. Use this checklist below to make sure you are fully prepared to give your next book talk.

	Student Action Items	Check When Completed
Book Selection	Choose a book that is interesting and engaging to you	
Timeline	Create a timeline to complete reading the book by your Book Talk date	
Book Details	Be sure to include these details in your book talk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title/Author/Illustrator Fiction: Character, Setting, Problem, Solution, Theme Nonfiction: Topic, Main Idea, Supporting Details, The most interesting part or Your favorite part 	
Prepare Your Artifact	Choose from the artifact list. Remember these will be displayed in our classroom library or in our Book Talk Binder.	
Be Creative	Think of a way to set your Book Talk apart and make it interesting for your classmates - Costume, prop	
Practice	Think about the following things when practicing your book talk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make eye contact with audience Spoke in a voice that everyone could hear Share a visual with the class Be prepared 	
Don't Tell the ending!	Remember Book talks do not tell the ending or all the details of the book. You want your classmates to get excited to read your book.	

Book Talk Planning Sheet

Name: _____

Book Talk Details	My Notes	Will I include in Book Talk?
Book Title		YES NO
Author		YES NO
Illustrator		YES NO
Characters		YES NO
Setting		YES NO
Story Solution		YES NO
Story Event 1		YES NO
Story Event 2		YES NO
Story Event 3		YES NO
Story Event 4		YES NO
Story Event 5		YES NO
Solution		YES NO
Reasons Why Someone May Enjoy this Book		YES NO

A LOOK INSIDE...

BOOK TALK TIC-TAC-TOE

Name: _____ Date Completed: _____

Directions: Each time you give a book talk, try to create a different artifact for your book talk presentation. Each time you complete each artifact, write the date in this box. Try to get tic-tac-toe (3 in a row) OR if you're up for the challenge, try to do them all throughout the year!

Book Cover Design a new book cover for the book that you just read. Think about important details or a special scene from the story you could include.	Comic Strip Create a comic strip from an important scene in the story. Make sure you include the important dialogue from that scene.	Mystery Bag Create a mystery bag that represents your book. Choose 5 items that are significant to the book. Write and tell how these items relate to the book.
Commercial Create a book commercial video. Think about how you can "sell" this book. Make sure you use language that will convince your classmates to read this book.	Post Card Create a post card as if you were the main character. Where would the main character be traveling? Why would they be traveling there? Who would they send a postcard to?	Letter Write a letter to a friend recommending the book. Tell them why they would like the book and details that would capture their attention. Remember to be convincing and compelling.
Poster Design a poster that would help create excitement about your book. Use intriguing words and detailed pictures to capture the viewer's interest.	Travel Brochure Think about the setting of the story. If you were going to create a travel brochure for the setting, what would you highlight? How would you convince your reader to come and visit?	Craft Project Use your imagination and create a craft project that represents some portion of the book. The craft should have a strong connection to your book and create some excitement for your audience.

CREATE A COMIC STRIP BOOK TALK ARTIFACT

Name: _____ Date: _____

Book Details:
Title: _____
Author: _____ Illustrator: _____

Directions:
1. Finish reading the book.
2. Choose an important event from the book, but be sure not to give away the ending of the story. Brainstorm how you could share that event through a comic.
Think:

- Which characters are in this scene?
- Does this scene have significant actions?
- What are the characters saying to each other?
- What might the characters be thinking, but not saying?

3. Use the space on the other side of this page to write and illustrate your comic. Be sure to include thought and speech bubbles to help create your scene.
4. Make sure your work can be read by others and use color to make your comic visually appealing.

Don't forget to share this artifact during your book talk.

Comic Template

MY POSTER FOR THE BOOK:

Who is the author and the illustrator?

My Book Cover

Basic Story Elements

My Favorite Part

You'll love it because...

Directions:
1. Fill out all of the basic story elements for this text.
2. Either draw or attach a picture of the cover so your classmates can easily find the book in your classroom library.
3. What was your favorite part of the story? Draw or write it in the heart above.
4. Why should your friends read the book? Write 2-4 reasons in the bubble above.

Planning Your Mystery Bag

Think of five items that would provide significant information about your book. They could include small pictures, props, outdoor elements, toys, etc. Collect all those items and place them in a mystery bag to use during your book talk. You can use the space below to brainstorm items to include in your mystery bag.

Significant Item	Explanation
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

How to Create a Visual for Your Book Talk

Including a visual, artifact, or prop can be a great tool to engage your audience during your book talk. If you are creating a visual or artifact, make sure it has the following attributes:

	Neat and Organized Include a title or heading, use your best handwriting, and make sure you draft it out before you create your final version.
	Easy to Read Don't include TOO much text. You want your artifact to be easy to read. You don't have to give away the entire book to make it valuable.
	Bright and Colorful You want your artifact to be visually appealing. Make sure it is bright and colorful and enjoyable to look at.
	Correct Conventions Make sure you check your spelling and grammar. Don't forget to use correct capitalization and punctuation.
	Connected to Book Make sure your artifact has a strong connection to the book and will help you during your book talk presentation.

How to Prepare for a Book Talk

Book talks are a great way to share a favorite book with your classmates. If you are getting ready to give a book talk, you want to make sure you take time to properly prepare. Take a look at the list of things you can do to prepare for your book talk.

How to prepare for a book talk:

- Plan a timeline for reading your book
- Review the book talk rubric
- Read your entire book
- Take notes about key story details
- Plan and create an artifact or visual to share during your book talk
- Prepare notes for what you want to share during your book talk
- Practice giving your book talk to someone at home, or even in the mirror... don't forget to use strong presentation skills

What to Include in a Book Talk

A book talk is short little book commercial that will help you convince your classmates to read a book. Here are some of the basic elements you want to include in your book talk.

	Engaging Hook You will want to start your book talk with an engaging hook. Maybe you ask a question, share a meaningful quote, or describe a strong emotion you experienced while reading. You want to do something that will make your classmates excited to hear more about this book.
	Key Details During your book talk, you want to share key details from the book. This might be the basic story elements if you are reading a fiction text or the topic and main idea if you are reading a non-fiction text, and no matter the genre, make sure you don't give away the ending of your book.
	Call to Action Before you end your book talk, make sure you give a "call to action." This means you need to tell your audience what to do next. When should they read this book? Where can they find it? Why should they read it? Make sure they know exactly where to find the book if they want to read it themselves.
	Props or Artifact You also want to consider including a prop or a book talk artifact. This can be something special you create that will help you during your book talk presentation. There are lots of different props and artifacts that you can share during your book talk.

Audience Member Expectations

Everyone plays an important role during book talks. If you are an audience member, you have a very important job to do. Here are some tips for being a good audience member.

Tips for being a good audience member:

- I will be an active listener
 - This means I will keep my body still, pay attention to what the presenter is saying, and not talk to someone sitting next to me.
- I will look at the presenter
 - This means I will keep my eyes on the presenter and the artifacts they are sharing.
- I will ask questions and engage
 - This means I will think about relevant and important questions to ask if given the chance.
- I will be encouraging and supportive
 - This means I will smile, clap at the end, and say good job after the book talk.

Don't forget to think about if this is a book you would enjoy reading.

Hey! Let's be friends!

Click the icon below to follow me on social media.



Looking for more stellar resources?

Click the photos below to check out some of my other resources.

