

Resources & Activities for Middle School English Language Arts

with printable resources

The following activities and resources are meant to help students remain engaged in reading, writing, speaking, and listening while we are out of school.

| Reading | |
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| Read for at least 30 minutes each day. | |
| Choose a few of these 20 Questions , and use them to guide your reading. | |
| Here are some passages that you could read for grade 6: | |
| Woman Who Helped Anne Frank... | Tiny Plastic, Big Problem |
| The Crow and the Pitcher | Malala Yousafzai: Normal Yet Powerful Girl |
| Here are some passages that you could read for grade 7: | |
| Head of her Class and Homeless | excerpt from <i>Red Scarf Girl</i> |
| Alaska Accelerates Indoor Agriculture | Keys of Destiny |
| Here are some passages that you could read for grade 8: | |
| excerpt from Anne Frank's diary | excerpt from <i>Narrative of a Slave</i> |
| Invention of the Popsicle | The Phoenix Bird |
| If you are able to go online, check out three different learning games on classroominc.org: "Community in Crisis," "Vital Signs," and "After the Storm." https://www.classroominc.org/play/ | |
| Read about your favorite author or one you've just found out about. | |
| If you could choose anything at all to read, what would you choose? | |
| If you can find it online or on a shelf, just start reading it. | |
| Start a series— <i>Divergent</i> , Harry Potter, <i>Hunger Games</i> , Percy Jackson, <i>Discworld</i> , <i>Dark Tower</i> , <i>Green Mile</i> , <i>Ender's Game</i> , and so many others. | |
| Turn off your phone and electronics for 30 minutes and sink into a good book. | |

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Writing

Answer some of the [20 Questions](#), about the piece that you just read.

Record an entry in your dialectical journal. Find one significant piece of the text you're reading. In your journal, explain its significance.

Write and illustrate your own fictional story or a set of instructions for a challenging task.

Write out a recipe—including an ingredients list and detailed instructions. Include a photograph of the finished products and steps. Publish your recipe by posting it in a social media space.

Research a new topic and develop a question you'd like to answer.

Write a letter to a friend or a teacher.

Keep a daily journal about any topic. A daily record of this experience of social distancing could be a great artifact to share with family next month, next year, or next generation.

Create a comic strip for a story that you're reading.

Speaking and Listening

Start a discussion in social media, using one of the [20 Questions](#).

Retell a story to someone in your family.

Try to speak in whole paragraphs.

Ask and answer questions.

Interview a family member or friend.

Post online any of the work that you completed in the writing section above.