

## **JOURNAL LETTERS - THINKING ON PAPER**

Use journal letters to express your thoughts, your questions, and your reactions to what you have read. You should not just retell the plot. Connect your experiences and memories to those in the book.

### **ASK QUESTIONS:**

- .. Does a character remind you of yourself or someone you know?
- .. Does the setting or the action remind you of something you have done or seen?
- .. Does anything confuse you? Explain what it is.
- .. What connects you to the action or plot?
- .. What do you think of the way the author writes?
- .. What did you like or dislike as you read?
- .. Can you make predictions as to what may happen next?
- .. How is the book like or different from other books you have read?

### **THE FOLLOWING PHRASES MIGHT HELP YOU START WRITING:**

- .. I wonder why...
- .. I know the feeling \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- .. I was surprised by \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- .. If I had been...
- .. I can't believe...
- .. I am curious about \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- .. I am confused about...
- .. I don't understand why...
- .. So far, my favorite character is...
- .. This book reminds me of...
- .. As I was reading, I began to think about...
- .. I liked the ending because...
- .. I did not like the ending because...
- .. I wish there was more action in this book because...

*You must write a minimum of two journal letters a week. Of course, you may write more if you want to!*