

Grades 7-9 Literacy Learning Activities

In addition to daily independent reading, students could choose one of the following activities:

Daily Independent Reading +

Learning Activity	Time	Instructions	Considerations
Read a Short Story or Article	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	Students can read a short story, magazine article, or newspaper article (either online or in print) independently. There are lots of short articles at: http://www.kellygallagher.org/aow-archive And short stories by teen at this link: https://www.teenink.com/magazine	As you read, ask yourself these questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● What new information did you learn?● What do you think the author wants you to keep in mind or remember?
Movie Review	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	Watch a movie you have been wanting to see. Write a short review based on your viewing. OR Watch the movie and discuss it with friends via technology, using the same criteria. You can find examples on: https://www.common sense media.org/movie-reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Movie reviews usually have a short summary of the story and characters.● They also include a recommendation for readers to either see or skip the movie.
Get Outdoors! OR Look Out Your Window	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	If you can, spend some time outside (or look out your window) and create a picture, and/or write about what you see, using the five senses to guide your writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● You may choose to write a short story, descriptive paragraph or a poem.● Look closely, what do you notice that you may not have noticed before?
Storyboard & Comic Strip	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	After reading part of your novel, create a storyboard or a comic strip that captures the main points. OR Create a storyboard or comic strip based on your own ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● How can you express your story in pictures?● What are the big ideas in your story?● How can images show emotion and conflict?● You can google “how to create a storyboard” for examples.
Interview	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	Create questions and interview a grandparent or family member by phone or technology. Is there a hobby or job they do, or something they have experienced that would be interesting to talk about?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● What is the main purpose of this interview?● What sorts of questions will get the most interesting answers?● What unique experiences or advice can your family member share?
Letter & E-Mail	Up to 30 Minutes/	Write or type a letter or email to someone you haven't been able to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● What's the most exciting or interesting thing that's happened

	Day Until Complete	lately. Let them know what you have been doing.	<p>since the last time you saw each other?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is something you are looking forward to when you see each other again?
Photo Diary	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	Keep a photo diary by taking pictures highlighting your day to day experiences while you are away from school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What were the big highlights of your day? ● How can you use your photos to show this? ● You could do this online or in a journal
Log/Journal	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	Keep a daily log/journal of what is happening in your life, your community, your country, or around the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keeping a journal not only helps your writing, but can be very therapeutic.
Write or Talk About a News Report or a Documentary	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	<p>Watch a news report or a documentary film and write about it, or talk to some about it using the guiding questions on the right.</p> <p>You can use this link or others for news reports: https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the main topic of this news report? ● What is your reaction to this story? ● What do you want to know more about after viewing?
Writing from a Character's Point of View	Up to 30 Minutes/ Day Until Complete	Pretend you are one of the characters in the novel or short story you are reading and write a diary/journal entry or story from their point of view.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use "I" when you write, as if you are the character. ● What events or problems is this character experiencing? ● How can you express their feelings, and opinions?