



Create Excitement with Book Talks

A short book talk is a very powerful way to connect kids to books. The more kids hear about books, the more they'll want to read.

★ Booktalk [In-a-Box]

Ask your Book Fairs' Consultant, 4-5 weeks before your Fair, to send a Booktalk [In-a-Box]. A selection of books with reviews will be provided.

- Recruit volunteers to give book talks in classrooms or during library time.
- Have older students present to younger grades or to reading buddies.
- Perform book reviews during morning announcements.
- Remind students they can purchase these books at your Fair.
- Showcase books & reviews in display case to create excitement.
- Sell books & return any remaining copies with Fair.



★ Top Ten Tips for Great Book Talks

1. Think about what you want to say. A good book talk makes **one strong point**, a “takeaway” that listeners can remember.
2. **Keep it short!** A good book talk is never much longer than 2 minutes (don't exceed 3 minutes).
3. Describe the plot in **one or two sentences**. You don't need to explain everything that happened, and you don't give away the best parts of the story.
4. Is there an **image, specific passage, or particular moment** that captures why you liked the book?
5. Have a **strong opening** to set the stage. This can be done with a question or strong statement. Pick a **Book Starter Card** (see Printable Resources section of website) to help you begin.
6. A **strong ending** is key to a great book talk. Don't say “And if you want to know what happens, you'll have to read the book.” Instead, leave your audience begging for more!
7. Use a **prop**, if appropriate, to catch your audience's attention.
8. Make eye contact with various members of the audience.
9. **Rehearse out loud** with someone or in front of a mirror at least twice before presenting to a group.
10. **Have fun and smile!**