FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

READING RESPONSE PAGES
ANY BOOK - GRADES 6-8


My name

Hook Rater

Circle a number from 1 to 5 for each part.

The first line
Did the first line make you want more?

The characters
Did you care about someone right away?

The setting
Could you picture where and when?

The mystery or problem
Is there a question or a problem you need answered?

The pace
Did it move at a speed that kept you listening?

Add the five scores. Total ____ out of 25. Total divided by

= my hook rating

The part that hooked me most was




My name _____ Date _____

Character Clues

Find clues about a character. Write what you figure out.

Book _____ Character _____

The author shows me (words, actions)	So I figure out

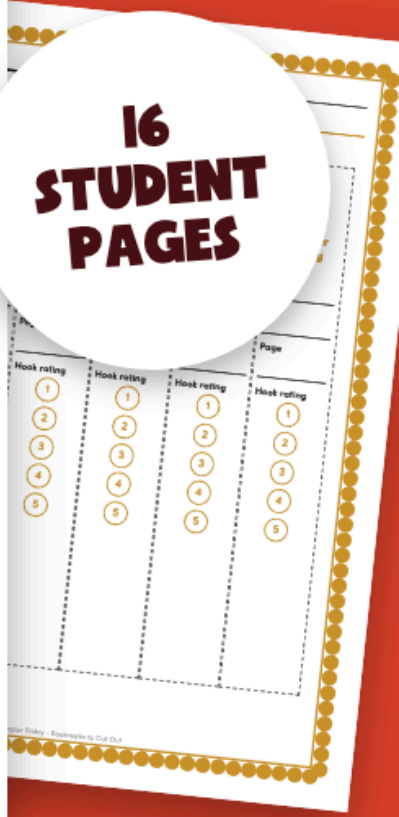
What other characters say or do	So I figure out

What the character wants or fears	I know this because

Three words for this character

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

First Chapter Friday - Character Clues


Page

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

First Chapter Friday - Bookmarks to Cut Out

16 STUDENT PAGES

Bright Path Sped

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- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the ruled lines stay 0.34 inch apart. Every student page is black and white inside a colored border, so it prints well on any printer.

Student work

A filled-in log or response carries a real student's name. Keep it in your records folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page before leaving a review. Every question is read, and a fix to the file ships as a free update: re-download it any time from My Purchases.

Reusing the pages

Print as many copies as your own students need. Save one blank copy first, then save each week's typed version under a new name.

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PREVIEW

How to Run First Chapter Friday

A weekly routine that works with any book you read aloud. Change any step to fit your schedule.

The Friday routine

- **Choose a book.** Any book you can read aloud: a novel, a memoir, a collection. Read the first chapter yourself first.
- **Introduce it.** Show the cover, say the title and author, and let students write them at the top of the page.
- **Read the first chapter aloud.** Stop at the end of the chapter, not in the middle of a scene.
- **Students respond.** Hand out that week's page. Quiet writing time; your timing may differ from other classes.
- **Share and vote.** A few students read a response. Everyone votes Yes, Maybe or No on reading more.
- **Record it.** Tally the vote on the class tally (page 21); students add a row to their log (page 19).

A 6-week rotation

Week	Student page	Page
1	Weekly Response	5
2	First-Line Analysis	9
3	Character Clues	11
4	Setting Clues	12
5	Prediction and Check Back	13
6	Compare Two First Chapters	16

No answer key: responses vary

Every page asks for the student's own opinion, prediction or noticing, so there is nothing to mark right or wrong. Look for a reason that points back to the book: a word, a detail, a line. A short answer with a clue from the text is a strong answer.

Questions to ask when students share

- What in the chapter made you think that?
- Which word or line would you point to?
- Did anyone feel the opposite? What did you notice?
- What does the author want you to wonder about?

Ways to change it

- Short on time? Use the quick response (page 7) and skip the share.
- Want more support? Use the sentence-starter page (page 6).
- Want a challenge? Use compare two first chapters (page 16) after a few weeks.

Choosing books

Choose books that suit your students and follow your school's own rules for book choice. The pages work for fiction, memoir and nonfiction, and with a book students have never seen, which is the point.

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____



Weekly Response

Listen to the first chapter. Then fill in your page.

Title _____ **Author** _____

Genre _____ **Pages I heard** _____

The first line, word for word

My prediction: what will happen next?

Hook rating
1 = I would put it down
5 = I need to hear more

1 2 3 4 5

What I noticed (a word, a character, a surprise)

Would I keep reading?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Because

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Ideas Shed

My name _____ Date _____

Quick Response: Two Books

Fill in one box for each book.

Title _____ Author _____

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

One thing I noticed

Keep reading? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Because

Title _____ Author _____

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

One thing I noticed

Keep reading? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Because

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____



First-Line Analysis

Copy the first line. Tell what it does.

Title _____ Author _____

The first line, word for word

What kind of first line is it? Check one or more.

☐ Action ☐ Dialogue ☐ Question ☐ Description ☐ Surprise ☐ Strong voice

Words that stood out, and what they make me picture

What this line makes me wonder

Hook score for this line 1 2 3 4 5

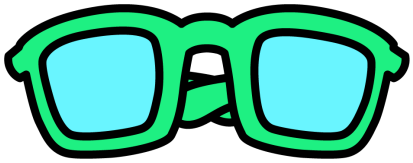
My own version of this first line

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____

Character Clues



Find clues about a character. Write what you figure out.

Book _____ Character _____

The author shows me (words, actions)	So I figure out

What other characters say or do	So I figure out

What the character wants or fears	I know this because

Three words for this character

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Predict and Check Back



Write what you think will happen. Check back later.

Book _____ **Chapter** _____

Before I read more

I predict that

I think this because (a clue from the chapter)

Check back after the next chapter

My prediction was

☐ **Right** ☐ **Partly right** ☐ **Not even close**

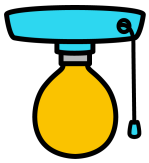
What really happened

What I missed, or what surprised me

PREVIEW

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My name _____ Date _____



What I Noticed

Write what you noticed in the first chapter.

Book _____ Author _____

A word or phrase I liked

Something that surprised me

Something that reminded me of another book, movie, or my own life

A detail that might turn out to be important

One thing I want to remember

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Ideas Shed

My name _____ Date _____



Keep Reading? Book Talk Card

Would you keep reading? Tell why.

Title _____ Author _____

Would I keep reading?

☐ Yes ☐ Maybe ☐ No

Hook rating 1 2 3 4 5

My reasons, with evidence from the first chapter

My one-sentence pitch to a friend: If you like ____, you will like this because

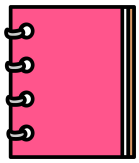
A reader who would love this _____

A reader who might not _____

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____



My First Chapter Log: Weeks 1 to 18

Write each first chapter you hear.

Week	Date	Book and author	Genre	Hook 1-5	Keep reading?
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

My favorite first chapter so far _____

PREVIEW

Class Tally

One row for each Friday: how the class voted and which hook rating came up most. 15 rows; add a second copy for a full year (36 weeks).

Class or group _____ Teacher _____ Term _____

Week	Book and author	Genre	Yes	Maybe	No	Hook picked most
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						

PREVIEW

How to tally

Ask for a vote: Yes, Maybe or No on reading more. Write each count in its column. The three counts should add up to the students who voted. For the hook, count the 1 to 5 ratings and write the number picked most.

What to do with it

Look for patterns: which genres get the most Yes votes, and which books split the room. Let the class choose the next read-aloud from the books with the most Maybe votes, or keep a shelf of Yes books.

First Chapter Friday at Home

Dear family, on Fridays we hear the first chapter of a new book and decide whether we would keep reading. These questions are for talking, not for a grade. Short answers are fine.

Student _____ Week of _____

Three things to talk about

- Ask your student: what book did you hear the first chapter of this week, and what was the first line?
- Ask: would you keep reading it? Why or why not? (Any reason is fine if it points to something in the chapter.)
- Ask: what do you think happens next?

My words from home

A book I heard about this week _____

A first line I liked _____

What I think happens next _____

Words that may come up

First line: the very first sentence of a book. **Hook:** the part of a beginning that makes you want to keep reading. **Prediction:** a guess about what will happen, based on clues. **Setting:** where and when a story happens.

Note from the teacher

Note from home

PREVIEW