# The Reader's Notebook: How Jotting Helps Readers Grow Ideas, Push Thinking, and Reach Goals

Presented by

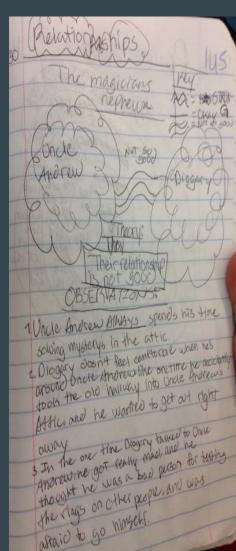
aimee Bouchard and Sara Jutcovich

# What is the Reader's Notebook, and how is it used?

- ★ It is a diary of text related thinking
- ★ It is a place to grow ideas about texts
- ★ It is a place to develop a theory with evidence
- ★ Students will start to take these notebooks home

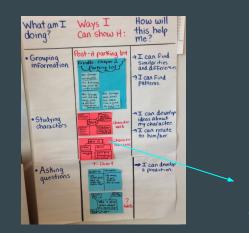
in unit 2 when they are introduced

- ★ It is a way to show grit as a reader
  - Revising predictions and theories
  - Proving an idea with justifications
  - Platform for sharing thinking
  - Space to reflect on reading habits
  - It is the action part of our goal setting



## **Changes from Second Grade?**

- ★ Instead of using external post-its readers keep track of their thinking through jotting and developing reading responses in notebooks
- ★ It is an organized collection of all text-based thinking where students can revisit previous work



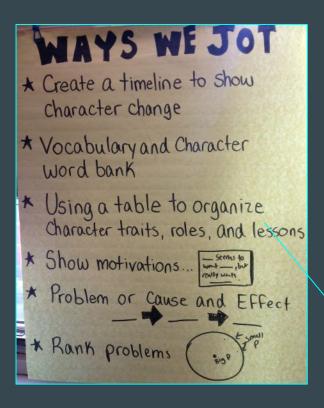
Traditional jots on post-its



Jots are recorded in notebook, labeled, and dated

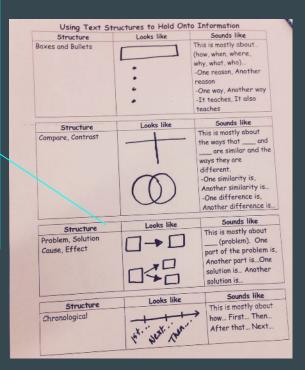
## **Jotting- What does it look like?**

There are many ways readers jot about texts.



Informational jots
consist of supporting
facts and evidence that
promote an original
idea. (Image from
Teacher's College
Reading and Writing
Project)

Fiction based jots often show character change and motivations and lead to theories



# Readers Use a Jotting Menu to Guide Their Planning

https://psllshowme.com/

### **Fiction Jotting Menu**

A jot is a short idea you have while you are reading. Just because the idea is short doesn't mean it's low level! Make sure your jot is deeper level thinking by...

### Develop and revise theories about characters in my books by thinking about:

- Multiple traits
  - What is your character like? What kind of person are they? Are they the same throughout the book? Be sure to make note of traits, not feelings.
- Relationships
  - Who does your character have relationships with? Describe those
- Motivations (wants)
  - Notice when a character makes a decision or does something important. Why does he/she do that?
- Behavior patterns
- Do you notice that your character repeats behavior? What does that tell you about your character?
- Struggle:
- What problem does your character face? How does your character respond to this problem? Does it get solved? How?
- Weakness/Strengths
  - Does your character have a hidden strength?
- How characters change
  - What changes are you noticing in your character? What is causing the changes? What moments or events are triggering those changes?
- Impacts characters have on one another
  - Think about secondary characters in your books. How do other characters act towards your character?

### Develop and revise themes What is the big life lesson the

- character learns?
   How did you come up with that
- theme?
- What is the lesson we can learn?
- Note parts of the text that support your theme/lesson.

### Compare and Contrast across books:

- Characters
- Major events
- Life lesson/ theme
- Setting
- · Author's craft within and across text

### Think about author's craft and explain how and why:

- An author elaborates on the most important parts
- Uses figurative languages
- Uses images
- . Begins or ends a story a certain way
- Shows setting

### Synthesize within and across texts:

- How do characters change within a book and across a series?
- Behavior patterns
- Relationships- how they change across a book/series?

### Non-Fiction Jotting Menu

A jot is a short idea you have while you are reading. Jots helps you keep track of your reading and growing new ideas. Make sure your jots are *deeper* level by thinking about the...

### Main Idea

- What is the text mostly about? What details support your idea?
- Summarize a part of the text. What parts of the text support the main idea?
- What strategy did you use to find main

### Author's Craft Preview the text and predict how it will

- go.

   After previewing ask yourself, \*How
- did the author organize this information?"
- What craft technique and text features does the author use (ex: repeating a line or illustration)?
- · Why did the author do this?
- How would a text be different without this technique?

### Compare and Contrast Jot about what is the same and

- different in two texts or across the same text
  - o Topic
  - Information presented

### Synthesize within and across texts

- Collect information about a topic or subtopic from one or more text
- Jot about information you have learned that changes or confirms your thicking
- Organize information from different texts into categories.

### Growing Ideas

- Ask a question and try to answer it
   Stop and think, "What does this make
- me wonder or question?"

  How can I apply what I am reading to a real world problem or situation
- Does the information I have learned changes or confirm my thinking?

### Analyzing parts of the story in relation to

- Think about cause and effect
- Think about the order of the information. Why is the text structured or organized in this way?
- How do the text features fit with the whole text or part of a text?
- Ask yourself, what does this part fit with another part of the text?
   Prompts to help you:
  - This is more on the same subtopic or topic...
  - This just turned to a new subtopic or topic...
  - This shows what happens next...

# A Thought Provoking Jot can Lead to a Powerful Reading Entry

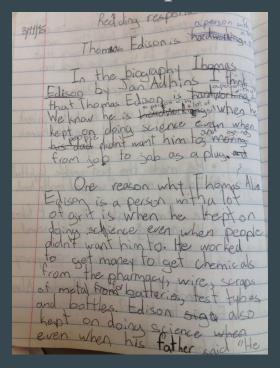
Students select a meaningful jot and then use a reading response menu to turn it into a well developed claim with supporting

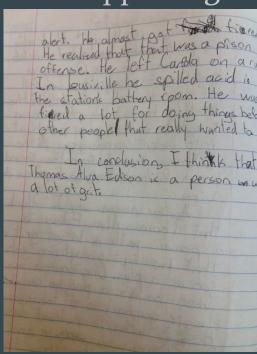
text-based evidence.

Example of a Nonfiction based jot developed into a reading response:

Original jot from notebook:

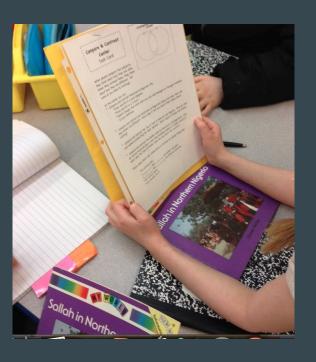
"Thomas Edison was a man with grit."

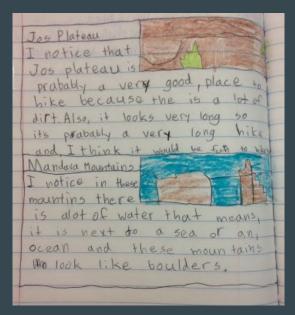


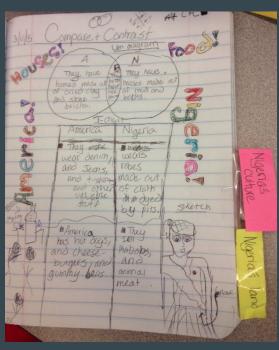


## **Jotting Supports Work in all Content Areas**

Jotting structures are transferred to other content areas and are used as valuable note-taking strategies.







# Jotting and Reading Responses are Aligned to Third Grade Common Core Standards and Expectations

Categories Where Common Core Standards Addressed:

- ★ Reading Informational Texts and Literature: Studying key ideas and details, craft & structure, integration of knowledge and ideas, reading a range of text complexity
- ★ Writing About Reading: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, recalling information and sorting evidence, writing routinely

For more information visit

http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/

### Let's Try it Out!



### $\bigstar$ Quick minilesson on one specific jotting structure $\rightarrow$ Ranking problems

### By Julie Brinckloe

On a summer evening I looked up from dinner, through the open window to the backyard. It was growing dark. My treehouse was a black shape in the tree and I wouldn't go up there now.

But something flickered there, a moment-I looked and it was gone. It flickered again, over near the fence.

"Don't let your dinner get cold," said Momma.

I forked the meat and corn and potatoes into my mouth. "Please may I go out? The fireflies-" Momma smiled, and Daddy nodded.

"Go ahead," they said.

I ran from the table, down to the cellar to find a jar. I knew where to look, behind the stairs. The jars were dusty, and I polished one clean on my shirt. Then I ran back up, two steps at a time.

"Holes," I remembered, "so they can breathe." And as quietly as I could, so she wouldn't catch me dulling them, I poked holes in the top of the jar with Momma's

The screen door banged behind me as I ran from the house. If someone said, "Don't slam it." I wasn't listening.

I called to my friends in the street, "Fireflies!" But they had come before me with polished jars, and others were coming behind.

The sky was darker now. My ears rang with crickets, and my eyes stung from staring too long. I blinked hard as I watched them-

Blinking on, blinking off, dipping low, soaring high above my head, making white patterns in the dark

We ran like crazy, barefoot in the grass. "Catch them, catch them!" we cried, grasping at the lights. Suddenly a voice called out above the others, "I caught one." And it was my own.

I thrust my hand into the jar and spread it open. The jar glowed like moonlight and I held it in my hands. I felt a tremble of joy and shouted, "I can catch

Then we dashed about, waving our hands in the air like nets, catching two, tenhundreds of fireflies, thrusting them into jars, waving out hands for more.

Then someone called from my house, "It's time to come in, now," and others called from other houses and it was over.

My friends took jars of fireflies to different homes.

I climbed the stairs to my room and set the jar on a table by my bed. Momma kissed me and turned out the light. "I caught hundreds," I said.

Daddy called from the hallway, "See you later alligator." "In a while crocodile," I called back.

"I caught hundreds of fireflies-

In the dark I watched the fireflies from my bed. They blinked off and on, and the jar glowed like moonlight. But it was not the same. The fireflies beat their wings against the glass and fell to the bottom, and lay there.

The light in the jar turned yellow, like a flashlight left on too long. I tried to swallow, but something in my throat would not go down. And the light grew dimmer, green, like moonlight under water.

I shut my eyes tight and put the pillow over my head. They were my fireflies. I caught them. They made moonlight in my jar. But the jar was nearly dark.

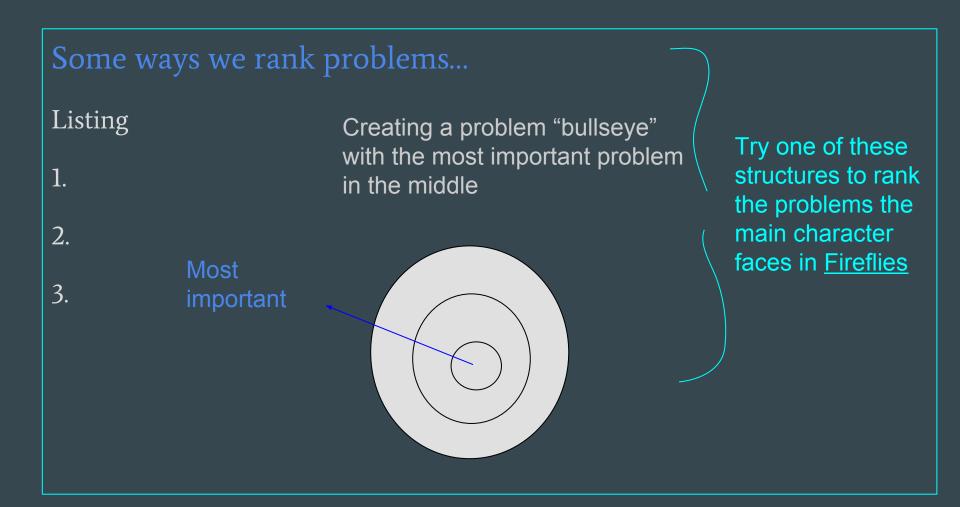
I flung off the covers. I went to the window, opened the jar, and aimed it at the stars. "Fly!"

Then the jar began to glow, green, then gold, then white as the moon. And the fireflies poured out into the night. Fireflies! Blinking on, blinking off, dipping low, soaring high above my head, making circles around the moon, like stars dancing.

I held the jar, dark and empty, in my hands. The moonlight and the fireflies swam in my tears, but I could feel myself smiling.

Let's try this out using Fireflies by Julie **Brinckloe** 

# Strategy: Readers prioritize problems by ranking them after reflecting on their importance.



### Home Vs. School

- ★ In school, students will have their notebooks out with them as they read. They will also be getting feedback almost every week to help them become better jotters!
- ★ **At home**, you can remind students about their jotting structures that they learned in class. You can also have students share out their jots and explain their thinking. Jotting is not required; however, if students are interested in jotting at home,we highly encourage that!
- ★ Talk about theories after students are done reading. Ask questions like:
  - What ideas are you growing about your story?
  - What evidence or examples from the story support your thinking?
  - What left you with a strong reaction or emotion today?
  - How does this work support your goal setting? Show me.

# Thank you for joining us this evening!