

No or Low Prep Reading Games

Cheat Sheet for Young Readers

Guess the Word

How to Play: Pick a word from the story and give clues to help your child guess it.

Story Time Mad Libs

How to Play: Replace words in a sentence with silly alternatives and read it back.

Character Voice-Off

How to Play: Assign silly voices to characters and read the story with flair.

Find the Object

How to Play: Describe an object from the book and have your child find a similar one around the house.

Act It Out

How to Play: Act out scenes from the story using simple props from around the house.

Word Detective

How to Play: Pick a "mystery word" and have your child find it in the story.

Picture This

How to Play: Have your child draw a scene from the story based on the description.

Who Said That?

How to Play: Ask your child which character said a specific line from the story.

Rhyme Time

How to Play: Choose a word from the book and challenge your child to come up with as many rhymes as possible.

No or Low Prep Reading Games

Cheat Sheet for Older Readers

Plot Twister

How to Play: After reading a chapter or scene, challenge your teen to rewrite the plot with a surprising twist. How would it change the story if something unexpected happened, like a key character's decision, a new villain, or a dramatic event?

Quote Quest

How to Play: Pick a powerful or meaningful quote from the story and ask your teen to explain what it means and how it relates to the themes or characters. For a challenge, you can also ask them to find their favorite quote from the book.

Character Text Messages

How to Play: Imagine two characters in the book are texting each other. Ask your teen to write out a text conversation between them that reflects their personalities, problems, or goals in the story. You can even make it fun by having one character "text" in shorthand and the other in full sentences.

Theme Detectives

How to Play: After reading a section of the book, ask your teen to identify any major themes they've spotted (e.g., friendship, courage, power, injustice). Discuss how the author is developing these themes and why they're important to the story.

Character Instagram

How to Play: Imagine a character from the book has an Instagram account. Ask your teen to describe what they would post for a specific event in the book (pictures, captions, hashtags, etc.). How would they express their feelings or key moments?

Would You Rather (Book Edition)

How to Play: Ask a series of "Would you rather?" questions based on the book. Example: "Would you rather be friends with Character A or Character B?" or "Would you rather live in the world of this book or a different book?"