# Reading Grade 4

## Activity

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Writing A Book Review</th>
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<td><strong>Parent Information</strong></td>
<td>Book Reviews - A book review is a person's honest response or reaction to a book they have read. A review includes the title and author's name. The reviewer gives just enough information about the book without giving the whole story away. Book reviewers try to give honest feedback about a book they've read.</td>
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<td><strong>Benchmark</strong></td>
<td>Benchmark LA.4.2.1.6 The student will write a book report, review, or critique that identifies the main idea, characters, setting, and sequence of events, conflicts, crisis, and resolution.</td>
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| **Objective** | Student will:  
Listen to and evaluate book reviews written by other children and critique them for their effectiveness  
Identify the features of a book review  
Engage in an authentic purpose for reading and writing by choosing a book based on their interest and reading level to read and write a book review.  
Apply their knowledge of book reviews by writing one that incorporates the features they have learned in this lesson.  
Use the writing process to write their book reviews (prewriting, drafting, editing, revising, and publishing) |
| **Duration** | 30 minutes for first session  
Student practice reading silently and orally may be ongoing. |
| **Materials** | Web sites:  
Book review Template – Courtesy of Read Write Think.org  

Share What You Read: Provided by Scholastic This site provides a place for students to read other students' book reviews and publish their own online.  

Children's books for students to review. |
## Procedures

Before you start this activity with your child it would be important to review character and plots of familiar fairy tales, or favorite books. Some students like to revisit book favorites such as, The Magic Tree House series Junie B. Jones, or the Diary of a Wimpy Kid. Prepare to discuss the stories that your child is familiar with. You may use asking words like; who, what, where, when, how, and why for each story. Here are some sample questions: (question stems courtesy of Read Write Think.org)

- **Who** was the story about?
- **What** happened in the story?
- **Where** did the story take place?
- **What** was the problem?
- **How** did the character solve the problem?

When you have completed the warm up activity and reviewing the familiar fairy tales/favorite titles, visit the Grimm Fairy tale website. Preview the story online. Read the story with your child. After you have read the story, have your child talk about each part of the story with you. You can refer to the questions that were mentioned above. Discuss with your child the terms: beginning, middle and end. After sharing the terms, visit the Read Write Think website. (interactive Plot Diagram) This will be a great review using the terms, beginning, middle and end. If you do not want to use the website, fold a piece of drawing paper into three sections. Label each section beginning, middle and end. Your child may illustrate and write about the beginning middle and end of the story. (Sequence of Events) You may want to have your child retell the story to you as well as complete the interactive plot diagram. Many students enjoy acting out the story. You can make this a family affair and have each person to act out a part/role. This practice strategy will help your child to write a book review. He/she can think about the important parts of the story and use those important details when he/she write a review.

## Sample FCAT Activities

Visit the library or online resources Learning how to identify the sequence of events (beginning, middle and the end) will enable your child to remember the events of the story and comprehend the meaning of the story. Summarizing (FCAT STRATEDGY) a story or article is a good way to
Learn about sequence, main ideas, supporting details, author’s purpose and other story elements. When your child is reading the story he/she will be able to make connections to other stories they have read, increasing their prior knowledge and building a strong foundation for comprehending any text read. Have your child write another review of a favorite book. Think about posting the review on some of the websites listed above.

### Additional Resources and Information

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<th>More Great Titles: Carnegie Library</th>
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<td>Fourth Grade Book Choices</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.greatschools.org/cgi-bin/showarticle/677">http://www.greatschools.org/cgi-bin/showarticle/677</a></td>
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