

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to write a comprehensive book report on "The One and Only Ivan" that includes a summary, analysis of characters and themes, and personal reflections.

## Materials and Prep

- Copy of the book "The One and Only Ivan"
- Pen or pencil
- Notebook or loose-leaf paper
- Access to a computer or tablet for research (optional)

## Activities

1. Read and take notes: Begin by reading "The One and Only Ivan" carefully, taking notes on important events, characters, and themes as you go along. Pay attention to the author's writing style and any literary devices used.
2. Summarize the story: Write a concise summary of the book, highlighting the main plot points and key events. Make sure to include the setting and major characters.
3. Character analysis: Choose one or more characters from the book and analyze their traits, motivations, and development throughout the story. Use evidence from the text to support your analysis.
4. Theme exploration: Identify and discuss the major themes present in "The One and Only Ivan." How do these themes contribute to the overall message of the story? Provide examples from the book to support your analysis.
5. Personal reflections: Share your personal thoughts and feelings about the book. What did you like or dislike? Were there any parts that resonated with you? Explain your opinions and provide specific examples.
6. Book report composition: Organize your notes and thoughts into a well-structured book report. Include an introduction, body paragraphs covering the summary, character analysis, theme exploration, and personal reflections, and a conclusion that wraps up your thoughts.
7. Proofread and revise: Take the time to proofread your book report for spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors. Make any necessary revisions to improve clarity and coherence.

## **Eighth Grade Talking Points**

- "The One and Only Ivan" is a work of fiction written by Katherine Applegate, and it was inspired by a true story. It tells the tale of a gorilla named Ivan who lives in captivity at a shopping mall.
- One of the major themes explored in the book is the importance of friendship and empathy. Ivan forms a close bond with a young girl named Julia and together they work towards a better future for all animals.
- The story also addresses the issue of animal rights and raises questions about the ethical treatment of animals in captivity. It encourages readers to think critically about the impact of human actions on the natural world.
- As an eighth grader, it is important to analyze the characters in the book and their motivations. Consider how Ivan's experiences shape his personality and actions, and how other characters contribute to the overall narrative.
- Additionally, pay attention to the author's use of literary devices such as symbolism, imagery, and foreshadowing. These techniques enhance the storytelling and add depth to the themes explored in the book.
- Lastly, don't forget to include your personal reflections and opinions in your book report. What lessons did you learn from the story? How did it make you feel? Use specific examples from the book to support your thoughts.