

Reading Rocks Reviews

KS1 Lesson 1

In this lesson, children will learn about the features of a good review and write their introduction.

Before this lesson, select one book that the class knows well or is currently reading for their collaborative review. You could review different books in groups, but think carefully about managing modelling, filming and editing multiple videos across the class. It is helpful if your chosen book has more than one character.

n.b. Always [log in](#) to your account before starting teaching to ensure you have access to the videos.

Introduction (10 mins)

Watch the [Challenge Video 1](#), which explains that this week, we will be writing a book review ready to share as a vlog.

Discuss: how do we choose books from the library? Do our friends ever recommend books to us? Why would we write a book review? Who might read one?

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Main (40 mins)

(Part 1 - 15 mins)

Watch the [book review examples](#). Pause at different parts of the clip, asking questions about content, e.g: what did they tell us/talk to us about? What did we hear/find out about?

As a class, discuss and decide upon the key content we need to include in a book review, guided by the examples:

- Introduction (Who we are and what we are doing)
- Synopsis (What is the book about?)
- Favourite character (and why)
- Favourite part of the book (and why)
- Rating

(Part 2 - 25 mins)

Explain to the class that, as we are going to film our book review, we need to make sure we have a good introduction, just like an author does, to grab your attention and keep the viewer watching.

Year 1: Children write their own introduction sentence using the structure:

My name is _____ and I am going to review _____ by _____.

National curriculum link: focus on capital letters for names.

Year 2: Children write their own introduction sentence using the structure:

My name is _____ and I am going to review _____ by _____ because _____.

Focus on the subordination (using when, if, that, or because) - a few words about why they have chosen this book to review.

Plenary (10 mins)

How do we make sure that people like our video and want to keep watching it? Invite ideas. Talk about how the way we speak can 'hook' the viewer. Model how to deliver the opening sentence using the correct intonation to make the meaning clear. Invite children to 'perform' their examples.

Throughout the week, it is really helpful if all of the large sheets/shared vocabulary, etc can form a working wall for the children to work from and absorb. This really impacts on their final work.