

Passport to Literature – 48 More Project Ideas

1. **Picture/Pop-up Books** – create a picture or pop-up version of the story that would appeal to younger students.
2. **ABC Book** – Make an ABC book/poster illustrating the characters, setting, plot and any other details about the book. You can make this as a mini book or a large poster.
3. **Design a Book Float** – transform a shoebox into a “book float,” similar to a float that might be seen in a large parade. Decorate an upside down shoe box to correspond with a scene from the book. The title of the book and the author’s name should be on one side, a summary of the scene should be on the other side, and your name should also be on the float.
4. **Acrostic Poem** – write an acrostic poem of the sequence of events in a book.
5. **Ten Facts** – create a “Ten Facts About [book title] poster that lists ten facts you learned from reading the book. Ten facts, written in complete sentences and illustrated, must include details you didn’t know before reading the book.
6. **Script It!** – write a movie script for a favorite scene. At the top of the script, assign real life TV or movie stars to play each role.
7. **Characters Come To Life** - Create life-sized models or portraits of two of your favorite characters and dress them as they are dressed in the book. Crouch down behind your character and describe yourself as the character. Tell us what your role is in the book, how you relate to the other character you made, and what events, traits or conflicts are involved.
8. **Sculpture** – Create a sculpture of a character. Use any combination of soap, wood, clay, sticks, wire, stones, old toy pieces, or any other object. An explanation of how this character fits into the book should accompany the sculpture.
9. **Interview** – Interview a character from your book. Write at least ten questions and answers that will give the character the opportunity to discuss his/her thoughts and feelings about his/her role in the story. Present your interview as a poster with pictures.
10. **Diary** – Write several (5 or more) diary entries that one of the story’s main characters might have kept before, during, and after the book’s events. Remember that the character’s thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary.
11. **Dramatization** – If you are reading the same book as one or more others are reading, dramatize a scene from the book together. Write a script and have several rehearsals before presenting it to the class.
12. **Pitch It!** – Give a sales talk, pretending the students in the class are clerks in a bookstore and you want them to push this book to their customers. You will need to persuade them that they should read the book.
13. Build a **miniature stage** setting of a scene in the book. Include a written explanation of the scene.
14. **Scene Sketch** – make several (at least 4) sketches of some of the scenes in the book and label them.
15. **Puppets** – Construct puppets and present a show of one or more of the interesting parts of the book.
16. **Character Dress Up** – Dress as one of the characters and act out a characterization.
17. **Letter from the Author** – Imagine that you are the author of the book you just read. Suddenly the book becomes a best seller. Write a letter to a movie producer trying to get that person interested in making your book into a movie. Explain why the story, characters, conflict, etc. would make a good film. Suggest a filming location and the actors to play various roles. **YOU MAY ONLY USE BOOKS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN MADE INTO MOVIES.** Mount it on large construction paper or make a poster for it.
18. **Book Review** – Write a book review as it would be done for a newspaper or TV show. (Be sure to read a few before you write your own).
19. **In The News!** – create the front page of a newspaper that tells about events and characters in the book. The newspaper page might include weather reports, and editorial or editorial cartoon, ads, etc. The title of the newspaper should be something appropriate to the book.
20. **Diorama** – Construct a diorama (3 dimensional scene which includes models of people, buildings, plants, and animals) of one of the main events of the book. Include a written description of the scene.
21. **Cereal Box Diorama** – take an empty cereal box, cover it with wrapping, contact, or brow paper, and cut a large flap in the front. Inside make a diorama of a favorite part of the book. On the top of the flap write the book’s title, on the spine write the author’s name, and on the back write a brief summary of the book.

22. **Letter to a Character** – Write a letter (10 sentence minimum) to the main character of the book asking questions, protesting a situation, and/or making a complaint/suggestion. This must be done in the correct letter format. Mount it on large construction paper or make a poster for it.
23. **Travel Brochure** – If the story of your book takes place in another country, prepare a travel brochure using pictures you have drawn or found.
24. **Character Description** – Write a FULL (physical, emotional, relational) description of three of the characters in the book. Draw a portrait to accompany each description.
25. **Timeline** – After reading a book of history or historical fiction, make and illustrated timeline showing events of the story and draw a map showing the location(s) where the story took place.
26. **Comic Book** – Create a mini comic book relating a chapter of the book complete with comic style illustrations and dialogue bubbles.
27. **Costumes** – Design costumes for dolls and dress them as characters from the book. Explain who these characters are and how they fit into the story.
28. **Sing!** – Write and perform an original song that tells the story of the book (beginning, middle, and end).
29. **Poetry** – After reading a book of poetry, do three of the following: 1) do an oral reading; 2) write an original poem; 3) act out a poem; 4) display a set of pictures which describe the poem; 5) write original music for the poem; 6) add original verses to the poem.
30. **“Coming to you Live”** – be a TV or radio reporter, and give a report of a scene from the book as if it is happening “live.”
31. **Book Cover** – Design a book jacket for the book. I STRONGLY suggest that you look at an actual book jacket before you attempt this.
32. **Collage** – Do a collage/poster showing pictures or 3-D items that related to the book, and then write a sentence or two beside each one to show its significance.
33. **Puppets** – Construct puppets and present a show of one or more interesting parts of the book.
34. **Mobile** – Make a mobile about the story. Use key items that were important to the story line.
35. **Mini Book** – Make a mini book about the story by folding 3 pages, stapled in the middle (outside paper is for title of book). Include the setting, plot, characters, important scenes, and climax.
36. **What Did You Learn?** – Write a summary about what you learned from the story. The summary might include factual information, something learned about people in general, or something you learned about yourself.
37. **Letter to the Author** – Write a letter to the author of the book. Include descriptions of your favorite parts and characters, what you didn’t like, suggestions you have for a different beginning or ending, and any questions you have for the author. Mount it on large construction paper or make a poster for it.
38. **Flow Chart** – Make a flow chart of all the events in the book showing causes and effects.
39. **Cycle Chart** – Show the events as a cycle.
40. **Mapping** – Make a map of where the events in the book take place.
41. **Character Map** – Do character mapping, showing how characters reacted to events and how they changed.
42. **Poster** – Make a graphic representation of an event or character in the story or make a poster advertising your book so someone else will want to read it.
43. **News Article** – Write a feature article (with a headline) that tells the story of the book as it might be found on the front page of a newspaper in the town where the story takes place.
44. **Motto** – Choose a quote from a character. Write why it would or wouldn’t be a good motto by which to live your life. Make a poster for it with an illustration.
45. **Letter from a Character** – Write a letter from one of the characters to a beloved grandparent or friend. Mount it on large construction paper or make a poster for it.
46. **Postcard** – Create a large postcard from one of the characters. Draw a picture on one side and write the message on the other.
47. **Travel Brochure Advertisement** – Make a travel brochure advertising the setting of the story.
48. **Pack a suitcase** – Pretend that you are going to join the characters in the story. What things will you need to pack? Think carefully, for you will be there for a week, and there is no going back home to get something! Design a poster with you ideas.