

READING ROUNDTABLE® ACTIVITY BOOKLETS

Best Practices and Getting Started Guide

Reading Roundtable® Activity Booklets are designed for group reading and discussion, with features that encourage engagement and reminiscence. To help get the most out of the activity, follow these tips:

1. Invite a small to medium group of participants

5-10 people is recommended, arranged in a circle or around a table so they can see each other.

2. Provide a copy of the booklet for each person to follow along

Having something to hold helps a person stay engaged and oriented to the activity.

3. Don't rush through the story

Allow plenty of opportunities to discuss the story, answer the questions, and share opinions. The goal is not to finish, but to foster relationships and social interaction.

4. Invite each person to read

Don't assume someone doesn't want to read or that they cannot. Give everyone the opportunity to choose. Offer support, if needed.



5. Use visual cues

The leader can hold up the book and point to the page number for people that may be hard-of-hearing. Create aids to help readers focus or reorient (e.g. covering all but one line with a piece of paper).

6. Write participants' names on table tents or nametags

This allows group members to call each other by name and supports the group leader. Be sure to ask each person what they prefer to be called.



Extensions and Resources

Consider ways to extend the activity, especially ideas from group members.

For example, watch a movie starring a famous person from the story, make the food you've read about, or organize a virtual trip to a location or museum.

Offer participants opportunities to assist in meaningful ways.

Could someone help pass out the booklets? Is there someone that could collect the booklets at the end of the activity? Perhaps 2 participants could be "buddies", with one supporting another when they need assistance.



Once participants have practiced with the procedure, invite a group member to lead the group.

Turn a booklet into a leader copy using labels on our website at bit.ly/CARD-product-resources

Consider enrolling in our online course, *Resident Activity Leaders: Training Persons with Dementia to Lead Activities*. (The Montessori Dementia Care Professional online course is a recommended pre-requisite). Learn more at www.cen4ard.com/online-training/



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