**Choose a topic from this list to write your response. Use a different question or sentence starter each week. Make your writing interesting and let those creative sparks fly!**

**Topics for Fiction Books**

* How does the story make you feel?
* Have you ever had a similar experience?
* Does the book remind you of another book? How?
* What surprised you about this story?
* Where and when does this story take place: past, present or future? How is the place and time important to the story?
* What can you hear, see, feel or smell as you read? Give examples of the author’s vivid language.
* Are there any powerful characters in the story? What makes them stand out?
* Which character taught you the most? What did they teach you? How does one of the characters change throughout the story? Why?
* Are the characters believable? Why or why not?
* If you were the author, would you have changed the story in any way? Explain!
* Do you have any unanswered questions about the story?
* What is the author’s message or lesson?
* Why do you think the author wrote this story?
* How would the story be different if told through the eyes of another character?
* What are some interesting words, phrases or sentences from the story? What do the mean?
* Have you read other books by this author? How is this story similar or different from the other story?
* Is the book you are reading so good that you don’t want to stop reading? If so, what has the author done to “hook” you as a reader?
* Why do you think the author chose the title? Would you have chosen a different one?

**Topics for Non-Fiction Books**

* What have you experienced in your life that helps you understand this topic?
* What is your interest in this topic? Why is this topic important?
* What are some of the most important words related to this topic and what do they mean?
* Were there parts of the reading you didn’t understand? What puzzled you? What questions do you still have?
* What does the book make you want to learn more about?
* Has the author/illustrator made this topic interesting? How?
* What does the title tell you about this book?

**Sentence Starters to help you start writing…**

* This (character, place, event, or situation) reminds me of … because…
* The character I (like best, admire, dislike most) is … because…
* This book makes me think about…
* When I read this book, I felt …
* If I were this character, I would…
* I predict that… because…
* As compared to other books (by this author, on the same topic by this illustrator), I think this book is…
* If I were the author, I would have changed the part of the story when…
* I think the illustrations were…
* The author got me interested when…
* This book makes me want to…
* The book reminds me of another book I’ve read. Tell about the other book and the connections you have between them.
* If I could talk to one of the characters in the book, I would ask or tell him/her
* The major problem in this story is…
* The solution to the problem in this story is…