Spaces

Student BookChats With Spaces

Help your readers connect more deeply with the books they are reading by offering feedback and allowing them choice in how they reflect on their reading.

✅	✅	✅
Teacher Modeled	**Requires Computer OR Mobile Device**	**Requires Spaces**

Learning Goals

1. Readers will engage in a bookchat to connect more deeply with text.

2. Readers will share their reflections with the text using a variety of media.

3. Readers will self-reflect on chosen texts/books regularly.

Materials

📖	**Student Handouts**	None
☑️	**Technology Requirements**	- Internet - Mobile device, tablet, or laptop - Spaces Login/Individual Space Set Up
🎥	**Video/Audio Clips**	These quick tutorials will help you navigate Spaces: Creating a Post in Spaces Overview of Different Spaces Assigning and Managing Activities

✏️ **Additional Materials**	Teacher will need to use a model text for a demo of Activity (could use The TRUE Story of the Three Little Pigs by A. Wolf) Students will use books of choice

Model in Class Space

Before setting up the Bookchat as an activity, it's important to model what you are hoping your students will discuss and reflect upon. For this part, you will make a post in the Class Space. Use a text that your whole class has read or is currently reading. You could also use a familiar text like **The Three Little Pigs**.
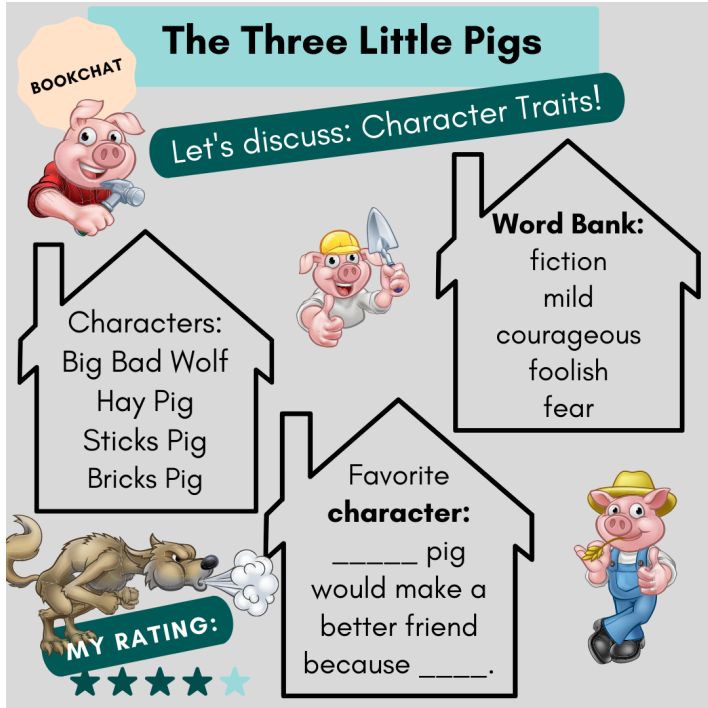
Class Post

Once you've decided on a familiar text, create a post in the Class Space for discussion. If you want your readers to analyze character traits, use that to model. Using **The Three Little Pigs** as an example, you might pose this question in the Class Space: Which little pig would make a better friend and why? Ask students to respond in the comments. They can respond using audio, video, text, or create a graphic/onepager to upload. Ask them to respond to each other's comments and use vocabulary from the story. Praise the comments when you see this to encourage them to use new vocabulary.

Provide sentence stems and/or a word bank to help guide the conversation.

This is a natural way to teach digital citizenship skills. If students are rude or make an inappropriate comment, use it as a teachable moment without embarrassing the student, and then delete the comment(s).

Though not necessary as you can make a video or just type your prompt for this post, you could create a graphic with Canva or your favorite creation tool (Buncee, Adobe Spark, etc.) and upload as the class post. See example below:

Once uploaded, your post would look like this in the Class Space:
Pro Tip: Tag the standard that goes with your bookchat.

Assign Activity

After a successful Class BookChat, create an activity and assign it to students. Make sure this activity goes along with the Class Model so you can refer back to it and they feel more confident. Where it says "Space" in the activity creation, be sure to click on Individual Space.

Pro Tip: Create an Individual Space called "BookChats" so these can be published into this space when the bookchat is completed.

Activity Information

Class

McAllister Academy

Space

Bookchats   INDV

Students

All Students

Title

Character Traits Bookchat

26/100

Instructions   ①

Analyze the characters in your book: Who is the main character? What does the main character do to make themself stand out? How do supporting characters help the main character reach their goal? What character traits would you use to describe the main and supporting characters? Choose the way you would like to share this: onepager, video, audio, or upload a

393/5000

Instructions might go like:

Analyze the characters in your book: Who is the main character? What does the main character do to make themself stand out? How do supporting characters help the main character reach their goal? What character traits would you use to describe the main and supporting characters?

Choose the way you would like to share this information: onepager, video, audio, or upload a document. Make sure to include the title and author of your book! Submit when finished.

Things To Consider

When creating this activity, you can decide the due date, but once students submit, give them feedback. Feedback is important because it's not a bookchat unless communication happens. They can edit and re-submit as necessary. When they have completed this assignment, publish this to an Independent Space (as the teacher, you decide what the Individual Space is called when you create it).

Decide if you want students to have a choice in how they submit their activity. Do you want them to talk about their books using the video or audio features? Do you want them to upload a onepager they've created? Make that very clear in your expectations.

Student submission choice is recommended. However, when submitting future bookchats, you can require them to change up the tool in how they submit. For example, if they use audio for the first bookchat activity, then a onepager or a video can be used for the next submission.

Once they've used each feature, they may prefer to use one more than any others. Allowing them to use their strengths will help them engage more deeply with their bookchats.

Possible Bookchat Activities

Every week or month, whatever works for you and your class, model a new reading concept/topic in the Class Space for a whole-group bookchat. Once you are sure the class understands the demo activity, assign that concept/topic to your class as an Activity for them to use with a book of their choice. Once they submit the finished bookchat/reflection, publish it to their Independent Space. This will allow them to see their growth over time.

 Here are some possible bookchat topics to demo with your class:

- Author's Purpose
- Moral/Lessons
- Character Traits
- Rewrite Ending
- Write Epilogue
- Write the Author
- Write a Book Review

Extension: Author Chat

Reach out to an author and invite them to meet with your class virtually. Beforehand, have students think of questions they'd like to ask. Afterwards, they can write or record a reflection in their Independent Space.

Establish Routine

Once you've established a routine and your students know they can connect in different ways with a story or text, you no longer need to assign the bookchat as an activity. It can be a weekly expectation. If you want them to continue talking about their books, they can do everything you've taught them in their Independent Spaces. You can require students to change up the way they share weekly, or allow them to develop their strengths if they've come to see they love engaging in text a certain way. The possibilities are endless!

Keep In Mind

Encourage students to check out a new book if they don't like the one they are reading, but let that also be part of their bookchat. For instance, for one week, they may share they read until the third chapter and it was not something that kept their interest and then they explain why. That in itself is a great reflection!

Longer books may be the source of several bookchats.

Encourage them to find three new words at a minimum when they read and add to their bookchat.

Use the audio feature frequently so readers of every level feel like they can participate and not feel embarrassed. Some readers may need to use the audio or video features regularly. As long as they are engaging with the text and communicating with you as the teacher, the mode isn't as important as the communication and engagement.

Pro-Tip: Once published to their Independent Space, you can show these learning artifacts during parent conferences, 504, or IEP meetings.