

## Enhancement Activities/Strategies for Gifted/High Ability Learners: Sample Reading/Language Arts Learning Plan

### Big Idea/ Topic

- Details and Examples from the Text

### Standard Alignment

- **ELAGSE4RI1:** Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text
- **ELAGSE4RI4:** Determine the meaning of general academic language and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.
- **ELAGSE4SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly
- **ELAGSE4W8:** Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information and provide a list of sources.

### Advanced Research

Challenge students to create a newspaper or magazine as a long-term project. This could even be a project for a small group of students to do together. Ideas to include in the newspaper/magazine: editorials, advertisements, comics, articles about topics of interest, book reviews, puzzles, photographs, weather forecast, and more. Encourage students to analyze multiple magazines/newspapers and determine the components they want to include.

## Communication

Develop a set of questions to accompany a magazine article or newspaper article. Consider having students work together in pairs to read, discuss, and analyze the questions before answering each one. The discussions students will have allow for alternate viewpoints and a deeper understanding of the text, especially where personal knowledge is needed to provide a rationalization.

## Critical Thinking and Critical Problem-Solving Skills

Think about the characters in the books we have read. Brainstorm a list of problems or challenges the characters have. Create a solution for one of the problems. Will it be a new invention? An adaptation to something that already exists? Will the character need to adapt his thinking and consider things from a different perspective?

Have the students create their own escape room whether it is digital or F2F. Challenge students to collaborate, use critical thinking, and communication to escape. If this is your students' first experience with this, you may need to be prepared to give hints to help guide students. I find the best hints are questions to make them think more. Allow the students time to struggle before providing a hint. I encourage students to use the back of their recording sheet to write down solutions they try. Oftentimes, they will figure out the answer by working through what does not work.

## Creative Thinking and Creative Problem-Solving Skills

Have students create a bitmoji-like character, then they can then create comics to depict or explain vocabulary words. Then take it to the next level and have students create a comic strip to summarize a reading passage, including some direct quotes.

## Awareness of Self—Student's Well-being

Encourage students to keep a journal while they work to complete reading all the books on the district list. Be sure that they complete a section on how the books make them feel.

