Connector:

Your job is to find connections between the book and you, and between the book and the wider world. Consider the list below when you make your connections. Pick out a THEME (like Identity) to make your comparisons.

 - Your own past experiences

 - Happenings at school or in the community

 - Stories in the news

 - Similar events at other times and places

 - Other people or problems that you are reminded of

 - Between this book and other writings/ literature that has a similar theme

Cartoonist:

Good readers make pictures in their minds as they read. In this book especially, this is a chance to share some of your own images and visions. Draw some kind of picture related to the reading you have just done. Draw a cartoon. You can draw a picture of something that happened in your book, or something that the reading reminded you of in your own life, or a picture that conveys any idea or feeling you got from the reading. Any kind of drawing or graphic is okay… you can even label things with words.

Action Tracker:

When you are reading a book in which characters move around and scene change frequently, it is important for everyone in your group to know where things are happening and how the setting may have changed. Carefully track where the action takes place during each reading. Describe each setting and action in detail using the following frames:

Today’s action begins \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Page #)

Key events are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Page #’s) (3 -5 quotes from the book)

Today’s events end \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Page #)

Put these paragraphs on an ACTION MAP (Either a Map or Timeline) that includes small cartoons.

Word Wizard:

The words a writer chooses are an important ingredient of the author’s craft. Your job is to be on the lookout for a few words that have special meaning in today’s reading selection.
Write down the puzzling or unfamiliar words while you are reading. Later, share the words with your reading group and later look up and write down the definitions from either a dictionary or some other source.
You may also run across words that stand out somehow in the reading – words that are repeated a lot, used in an unusual way, or are crucial to the meaning of the text.
You must have

 - List of 15 to 20 words

 - Include the page # next to each word

 1. Predict the definition with the sentence frame “Based on the reading context, I predict the word means\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”

 2. Write out the actual definition.

 3. Write a NEW sentence using the word in the correct way.