

Drop Everything and Read



Complete five activities.

1. As a group, choose and read four books and have a meeting or campout with one activity from each of the books.
2. Put on a play based on a story you have read. Rewrite one of the stories and act it out. *Wilfrid Gordon MacDonald Partridge*, by Mem Fox, is a simple story and works well as a play.
3. Make a meal or snack based on a story: *Stone Soup* or *The Chocolate Touch*, for example.
4. Make and model a costume from one of the books your whole group has read. Each girl should use the same base to begin her creation: a paper bag, an oversize t-shirt, or a leotard, for example. Provide lots of things to glue, tape, pin, tie, color, and paint on the costume base.
5. Invite a storyteller to tell a story at your meeting. Your library is a good resource for locating a storyteller. OR Listen to a book on tape. After listening to the storyteller or the book on tape, practice telling lines of a story with expression.
6. Make and write your own book. To make your book, sew five blank pieces of paper together with a seam down the center. Fold the pages in half. For a hard cover, spray glue the first and last pages to a piece of cardboard covered in contact paper. (Ramona Quimby's invention; see *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* by Beverly Cleary.)
7. Do a book review. At each meeting, have one girl talk about (review) a book she has recently read. By year's end, everyone will be talking about what they've read.
8. Help others learn to read. Each girl could donate one of her used books to a local literacy project. OR The troop could find a project in their community or school that would promote reading.
9. Chart your progress. Make a booklet or chart so that each girl can write down the title, author, and date for each book she reads throughout the year.

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