

TEACHER'S GUIDE

First Chapter Friday

Each Friday, read the first chapter of a new book aloud to your class. It's a fun way to give students a "sneak peek" at different books and spark their interest in independent reading.

Reasons I love *First Chapter Fridays*: Exposes students to new books, spreads the love of reading, low-stress, low-prep, high engagement, creates routine, and builds class culture.

Implementation:

1. Prepare and preview a book ahead of time. Tailor it to your class's grade level, reading ability, and interests.
2. Hand out templates so students can color, doodle, or jot down a few thoughts while they listen. Templates keep hands busy and minds focused without making it feel like an assignment.
3. Before reading to the class, clearly state the book's title, author, and genre.
4. Read either the first chapter or the prologue—whichever will best capture students' interest. I stop at 15 minutes if the chapter goes longer than that. You can either read it yourself or find the audio on Youtube.
5. First Chapter Fridays are not formally assigned or graded. With that said, discussions are great for afterward! Feel free to have a conversation about predictions, character impressions, or simply whether the book grabbed their interest.
6. Create an ongoing list somewhere in your classroom so students can see all the books you've sampled throughout the school year! You could even print out pictures of each book cover and create a collage or gallery wall on a bulletin board or open space in your classroom. This visual reminder not only celebrates the books you've explored together but also helps spark students' memory when they're looking for their next great read!

FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Record your thoughts and impressions of this chapter in words and doodles as you listen.

• "Ghost" by Jason Reynolds

• Castle Cranshaw

• Realistic Fiction

• Coach Brody



• powerful, emotional, raw

• Haunted by trauma

• incredible speed

• fascinated by world records
and dreams of being star
athlete

Ghost

First Chapter Friday

Record your thoughts and impressions of this chapter in words and doodles as you listen.



Book Title:

The Hunger Games
by Suzanne Collins.

Katniss Everdeen
tough girl who
hunts illegally.

Thoughts/Reaction:

Dystopian Fiction

The REAPING!!!

• Looming event of the
reaping where children
are selected to fight
to the death.

INEQUALITY!!



• class wars



FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

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Title and Author:

Scythe by Neal
Shusterman

Genre:

Dystopian / Science
Fiction

Takeaways:

- set in the future
- scythes are tasked with controlling the population



• serious tone

• Citra is a teenager visited by
Scythe



Rating:

Faraday



PREVIEW

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First Chapter Friday

Describe your thoughts and reactions to this chapter as you listen.



BOOK TITLE AND GENRE:

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
Science fiction

THOUGHTS:

6 year old genius has a monitor removed. seems unrealistic but still exciting and interesting. He's being bullied and must stand up for himself.



RATING AND EXPLANATION:

I am rooting for Ender. He seems like a good kid. I would read this book. I give it four stars. I wonder how the government will play a role. Seems dystopian, almost.

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PREVIEW

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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

NOTES

Describe your thoughts and reactions to this chapter through words and doodles as you listen.
Include the title, genre, author, main characters, and your response to the book.

PRINCE CHARMING
CINDER = cinderella



EVIL STEP MOTHER!
(and STEP SISTERS)
transformation !?

SCIENCE FICTION
FUTURISTIC
INSPIRED BY
CINDERELLA

MAGIC

Cinder

by
marissa
meyer!



a gifted mechanic and a cyborg works at a market in Beijing
when a chance encounter with a prince sets off a chain of events
she's discriminated against and struggles with isolation.

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PREVIEW

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First Chapter Friday

Record your thoughts and impressions of this chapter in words and doodles as you listen.

Book Title: The Five People You Meet in Heaven
(philosophical fiction) by Mitch Albom



• Tragic accident occurs

• Life's purpose

• Eddie works at amusement park

Thoughts:

I liked how it hooked me with it being Eddie's last day alive. The title is interesting too.

PREVIEW

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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Describe your thoughts and reactions to this chapter through words and doodles as you listen.

TITLE: The Martian (Novel by Andy Weir)

DESCRIBE THE CHAPTER: This chapter was hilarious but terrifying! The main character is trapped on Mars! Everyone thinks he's dead so no one is coming to rescue him! He's low on supplies with no real plan. I think he might die, but who knows!



RATING:

I give this 5 stars! For a science fiction novel, this grabbed my attention. I really want to find out what happens next!



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First Chapter Friday

Record your thoughts and impressions of this chapter in words and doodles as you listen.

Book Title:

PREVIEW

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Thoughts:

PREVIEW

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PREVIEW

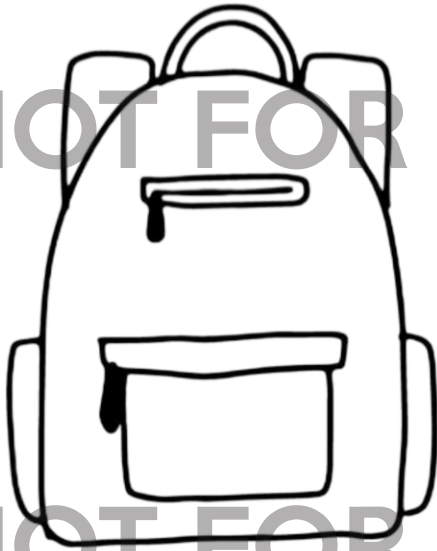
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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Record your thoughts and impressions of this chapter in words and doodles as you listen.

PREVIEW

Title and Author:



Genre:

PREVIEW

Takeaways:



PREVIEW

Rating:

PREVIEW



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PREVIEW

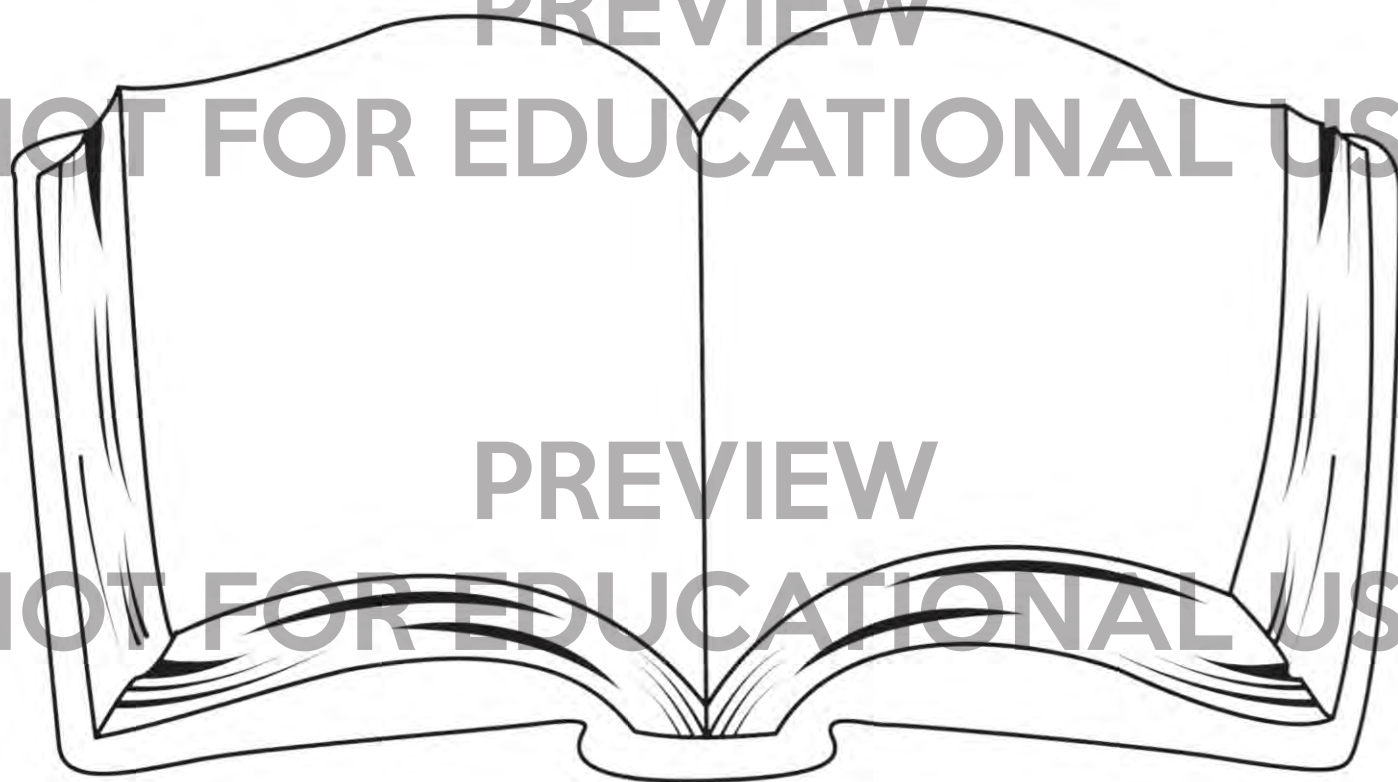
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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

RECORD YOUR THOUGHTS AND IMPRESSIONS OF THIS CHAPTER IN WORDS AND DOODLES AS YOU LISTEN.

PREVIEW

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PREVIEW

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PREVIEW

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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Describe your thoughts and reactions to this chapter as you listen.

WHAT'S HAPPENING/THOUGHTS:

PREVIEW
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PREVIEW

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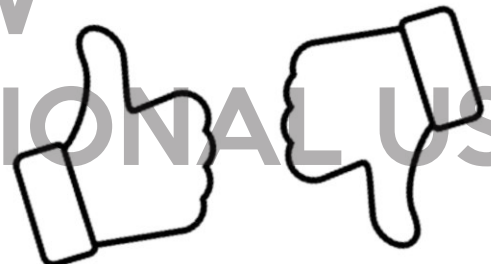
BOOK TITLE AND AUTHOR:



PREVIEW
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DOES IT SOUND LIKE SOMETHING YOU'D ENJOY? WHY OR WHY NOT?

PREVIEW
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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

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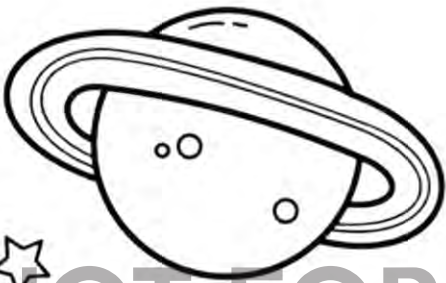
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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

Describe your thoughts and reactions to this chapter through words and doodles as you listen.

TITLE:

DESCRIBE THE CHAPTER:



RATING:



PREVIEW

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First Chapter Friday

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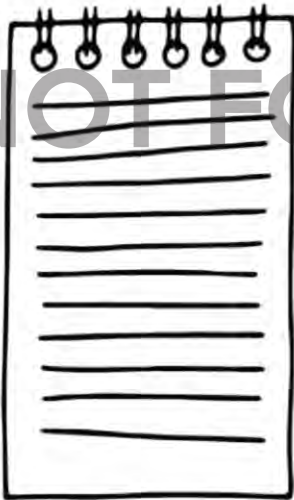
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First Chapter Friday

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BOOK TITLE AND GENRE:

THOUGHTS:

RATING AND EXPLANATION:



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PREVIEW

PREVIEW

PREVIEW

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FIRST CHAPTER FRIDAY

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TITLE:

DESCRIBE THE CHAPTER:



RATING:



PREVIEW

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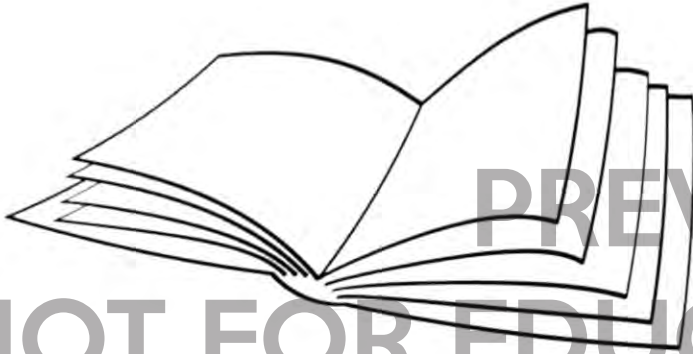
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Describe your thoughts and reactions to this chapter through words and doodles as you listen.

PREVIEW

TITLE:

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PREVIEW

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THOUGHTS:



PREVIEW

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QUESTIONS:

PREVIEW

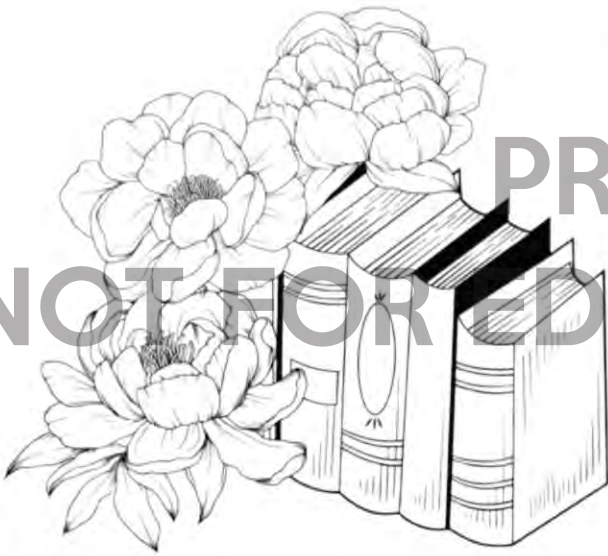
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First Chapter Friday

Record your thoughts and impressions of this chapter in words and doodles as you listen.

Book Title:



Thoughts/Reaction:



Rating:



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