

Partner Book Conferences (From Laura Robb)- You can read what you want. You have to focus on something specific, though- discuss author's purpose or theme or explain how text features brighten the book. In *The City of Ember*, for example, you can focus on the map in the book. Your partner would have a separate topic for his own book.

- Retell a chapter or a favorite part.
- Discuss changes in the main character from the beginning to the end of the story.
- State a major problem a character faced and how it was resolved.
- Focus on one key conflict in the story and the outcome.
- Discuss the character and/or situation you personally connected to and why.
- Identify the genre and give strong examples from the story that illustrate that genre's structure.
- Discuss new information you learned.
- Select a favorite illustration or passage from the story, and explain why you chose it.
- Describe two settings and explain how each affected the plot or action or a character's decisions.
- Discuss the author's purpose or theme of the book.
- Explain how the title connects to the story.
- Discuss two events that greatly influenced the main character.
- Select and read a short passage in the book that really spoke to you. Connect the passage to your experiences and to the story.
- Predict/Support/Confirm or Adjust- Sticky Note Strategy- Have students write "Predict" or "Support"- and "Confirm/Adjust" and place the notes in different parts.