

2. I will be starting with a new group of Independent Reading students on Friday. Can you help me? Please be thoughtful and construct a list of your TOP FIVE TIPS (or good advice) either for selecting books or surviving Independent Reading. I will compile and share your TIPS (anonymously) with my new students on Friday. Please make sure you provide each TIP in a detailed complete sentence or two!

Ideas: Include tips for choosing books 📖 , tips for favorite authors, tips for staying awake 😴 or staying warm 🔥 tips for sitting still from 1:50 to 3:30 (Please balance the silly with some serious! Thanks!)

1. 📖 The best way to get through Independent Reading is to choose a book you can get lost in. A book you will enjoy, this way the time will pass in seconds and before you know it you'll have to stop reading!
 2. 😴 I've never had too much trouble staying awake but if it's something you struggle with I would advise sitting in an upright position, not in any sort of position that would be comfortable enough to sleep in. If that still doesn't work try to get more sleep at night.
 3. 🔥 It's really not cold enough where you would need a blanket, I would advise simply bringing a sweatshirt to the class in case you get cold.
 4. If you have trouble sitting still I wouldn't stress over it too much unless you make a lot of noise or attract a lot of attention. Moving is fine as long as you aren't moving around the room constantly or being obnoxious or annoying.
 5. This isn't really that good of a tip but I would try to bring a few books from home and read them. The way you don't have to worry about late fees or someone else wanting your book, or losing it or damaging it. Not only will you be able to do whatever you want, you'll be able to actually read some of those books that do nothing but waste away on a bookshelf.
-
-

1. Get back into an old book series you used to read! Going and rereading old favorites is always nice.
 2. You can bring music if you want, it helps sometimes. It can also provide a soundtrack to the book you're reading which is kind of cool.
 3. If you get tired of reading a certain kind of book, change it up. Comic books, poetry books, novels, etc. are all way different types of books.
 4. Probably wear a sweater. This one sounds kind of useless, but it actually can get pretty cold in this room, which makes it hard to concentrate.
 5. Before you go to the library, maybe research a book you'd want to read, or an author/style/whatever. They might not have exactly what you want, but you can always request material from another library.
-
-

1. When looking for a new book to read choose an Author you have read in the past and that you like.
 2. When reading make sure you stretch every once in a while to keep the blood flowing around your body.
 3. If you have trouble staying awake ask to go to the bathroom so you are up and moving.
 4. If you are having trouble focusing on a book just look up and breathe, give it a few minutes and get right back into the reading.
 5. If you have any off time during the semester make sure you always have a book with you.
-
-

1. First tip, Independent Reading is not bad at all at first it was hard to read still in a uncomfortable chair for a while. But you just learn to relax and let your mind just be worry free from doing other homework.
 2. Second tip, find a book you are interested in there was a few books I read without even looking at them and they ended up being terrible and I took them right back to the library.
 3. Third tip, find a comfortable place to read, it's just important, take my word.
 4. Fourth tip, bring a hoodie or blanket, it gets really cold with the AC and things are better and more comfortable with something keeping you warm and cozy.
 5. Fifth tip, find a friend you can read books along with, my friend and I would read the same book either before or after each other then talk about it and talk about different things about it and our point of view.
1. On the first day of class, find the spot you want to read in and stay there all semester (like church!)
 2. Bring a blanket, it gets cold.
 3. The easiest way to read 5 books is to find a series that interests you.
 4. If you have an interesting book you won't fall asleep.
 5. If you don't like the book you're reading, don't finish it, find a book that interests you so that you read instead of sleep.
-
-

1. Make sure you have a book or genre that you enjoy.

2. Have several places to sit (close to your seat) or at least different positions so if you get antsy you can move without disrupting others.
 3. Explore different genres. If you only read mysteries look at some gothic books switch it up so you don't feel like you're constantly reading the same thing.
 4. If you get cold easily bring a sweatshirt or some blankets.
 5. If you get bored with books pick books that aren't as long so like 200-300 pages and have two or three so you can switch it up.
-
-

1. Re-read some of your favorite books. This way you know it's something you're interested in AND you refresh your memory of the book.
 2. Bring a blanket and maybe even a pillow, because if you're sitting on the floor it can get pretty uncomfortable. The room is pretty cold as well, so the blanket will come in handy. Don't get too comfortable and fall asleep though!
 3. If you like a certain author, look into more books by them. If you've read all of their books, research authors similar to your favorite!
 4. Do whatever you need to do to help you concentrate, as long as it isn't distracting to others. If you need to listen to music in order to focus, that's fine, but bring headphones and make sure it isn't loud enough for everyone else to hear. That will make it difficult for others to concentrate.
 5. Come into the class with an open mind! You might not be an avid reader, but you'd be surprised how quickly the right book will pull you in.
-
-

- 1) Pick books that you want to read and that interest you, this way you will finish the book because it's about something that you like.
 - 2) Move around, if you feel tired get up and ask to go to the bathroom or to get a drink. This way you won't fall asleep.
 - 3) Stay awake, if you fall asleep there's a higher chance that you will fall asleep every class period.
 - 4) Bring a blanket, if you don't think you're going to fall asleep if you do bring a blanket than I would recommend bringing one because it makes the block go by way faster plus you're comfortable.
 - 5) When you find a book that you really like it makes the class periods go by way faster because you tend to get lost in the book. So pick one that you really like, and if you decide you don't like that book after reading a few pages, switch the book. You don't have to finish the book after you start it, just find a new one that you like.
-
-

Other selected tips from 1st semester students:

I found the reading outside of class helps you get the five book goal.

I didn't read much before this class, but when I came in with an open mind and was ready to try something new I found out that I actually love reading and I now read a lot in my spare time.

Do not fall asleep. many kids in this class (including me) have been falling asleep in the middle of class. If you do fall asleep, you could get in trouble and lose time to read. **DO NOT FALL ASLEEP!**

Do your journals. It is important to do your journals. They show how well you have been doing in class. If you don't do them, you will be behind and get a low grade.

Have fun. Not every class lets you read for over an hour. So enjoy your time in this class. Spend your time wisely and read.

Find what you like. Try books from all different genres even if you think you won't like them. This will make it easier to figure out what you like.

Ask your friends what their favorite book is and read it. Just because it does not sound good does not mean it is not good.

Grab a random book of one of the library tables and read it. Books on there are usually books others have read recently.