

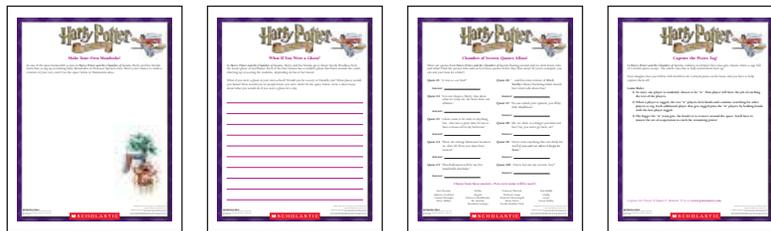
Harry Potter

READING CLUB



Dear Host,

It is time for another meeting of The Harry Potter Reading Club! You'll find everything you need on scholastic.com/hpreadingclub, including these exciting new activities:



Activity 1: Make Your Own Mandrake!

For this craft activity, club members will get to make their own Mandrake creature, like those that Harry and his friends dig up in Professor Sprout's class in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. To remind club members of this event and to get a complete picture of what a baby Mandrake looks like, read the passage from pages 93-94 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* aloud to the group, or encourage them to visit Book 2, Chapter 6, Moment 2 on Pottermore.com.

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Bring in plenty of ginger or other knotty root vegetable, such as parsnip, turnip, carrot, or potato. If the root vegetable you select doesn't have a leafy head attached, you will need to provide the greens (hair), which can be made from anything from parsley to green construction paper. (Members can cut the paper and/or paint it a purplish green to look like the Mandrake's hair.)
- 3) Gather art supplies such as toothpicks (to secure the greens to the Mandrake's head and to connect root pieces so that members may add limbs, etc.), plastic knives (to carve faces), colored markers (or paint and paintbrushes), green construction paper (if not using vegetable greens), scissors, and glue. (Note: Since the creatures in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* are described as having "mottled green skin," you might want to allow members to paint their Mandrakes accordingly.)
- 4) If you want, you can provide potting soil and small terracotta pots or plastic cups that the creatures can live inside and peek their heads out of.
- 5) Bring in newspaper or butcher paper to protect your workspace.
- 6) You might want to make your own Mandrake creature ahead of time to provide an example for club members to follow.

During the activity:

- 1) Set out enough supplies for each member.
- 2) Explain the activity and answer any questions.
- 3) Have each member show off their creature to the group.

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Activity 2: What If You Were a Ghost?

At Hogwarts, each of the four houses has a resident ghost. In *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, readers get to know the Gryffindor ghost, Nearly Headless Nick. For this creative writing activity, club members will get to imagine what it would be like to be the resident ghost of their own school.

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Have pens or pencils on hand.

During the activity:

- 1) Explain the activity and help club members brainstorm ideas.
- 2) Afterwards, you can invite club members to read their stories aloud to the group.

Activity 3: Chamber of Secrets Quotes Afloat

This activity will test how closely members read *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* and will help them understand the differing viewpoints of the characters.

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Be sure to have plenty of pencils.
- 3) Have copies of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* available for members to look up answers, when necessary.

During the activity:

- 1) Hand out the worksheets to everyone present.
- 2) If club members need help, offer hints from the answer key below.

Hint and Answer Key:

Quote #1 Hint: Look on page 225 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Hermione Granger

Quote #2 Hint: Look on page 333 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Professor Dumbledore

Quote #3 Hint: Look on page 13 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Harry Potter

Quote #4 Hint: Look on page 317 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Tom Riddle

Quote #5 Hint: Look on page 129 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Nearly Headless Nick

Quote #6 Hint: Look on page 99 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Gilderoy Lockhart

Quote #7 Hint: Look on page 112 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Draco Malfoy

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Quote #8 Hint: Look on page 19 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Dobby

Quote #9 Hint: Look on page 329 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Mr. Weasley

Quote #10 Hint: Look on page 338 of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

Answer: Lucius Malfoy

Activity 4: Capture the Pixies Tag!

When the Cornish pixies escape their cage during Gilderoy Lockhart's first class, things get more than a little unruly. For this group activity, based on a version of the game "tag" known as "blob tag," club members will imagine that they, too, are Cornish pixies on the loose. The player who is chosen to be "it" will lead the pursuit in capturing all the other players.

Prepare ahead:

- 1) Photocopy one worksheet per member.
- 2) Clear out a space to play the game. If possible, you may want to move this game outside. If so, you should set boundaries to define the playing area.
- 3) Familiarize yourself with the rules of the game, explained on the Capture the Pixies Tag! worksheet.

During the activity:

- 1) Read the game rules on the worksheet aloud and answer any questions that club members may have about how the game works.
- 2) Ask for a volunteer or randomly select one player to be "it."
- 3) Supervise the activity to make sure everyone has fun and plays safely.

APRIL BONUS TRIVIA QUESTION:

In a wizard's duel, which spell would you use to disarm your opponent?

Answer: *Expelliarmus!*

Share the fun from your club meetings by tweeting about your most successful activities #hpREADS. We'll select a favorite to feature on our site.

Yours sincerely,

The Harry Potter Reading Club

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