

Response to Literature: Prove It!

Purpose: This organizer provides students with specific steps necessary to collect evidence for a response to narrative or expository text. In order to respond to text, students need to form an opinion, back it up with evidence from the text, analyze the evidence, and finally make connections to other texts, to themselves, or to the world. The Prove It! activity makes these steps interactive and fun.

Overview: The teacher states an opinion, then writes it on the opinion line. Notice this particular response (sample on page) displays an opinion about a character's trait from Scott O'Dell's *Island of the Blue Dolphins*: Karana was brave. To ensure success in this activity, the teacher provides a mini-lesson on bravery (What does brave mean?)

After defining bravery, the teacher then repeats the opinion, Karana was brave, for to continue on with the Prove It! activity. When the students hear the teacher's opinion, they then slap their hands together yelling: *Prove it! Prove It!* Next the teacher explains that she needs to find proof in the text to back up her opinion. She then reads text from the page that proves Karana was brave. Next, she records the text on the chart as a direct quote or paraphrase.

After the proof, the students put their hands on their hips and chant: *What does that mean? How does that evidence support your opinion that Karana was brave?* The teacher analyzes the proof (using the mini-lesson information on bravery), and then explains how it supports her opinion. After analyzing, she records the analysis in the middle box.

Finally, the students say aloud: *Connections!* The teacher uses the reading connection team (Chapter 5) to help her connect this type of character trait to another book, the world, or her own experiences. Once a connection is made, she then uses it to make a prediction, ask a question, or have an emotional response. This information is recorded in the bottom box on the organizer. This is a fun and interactive technique for students to respond to the text. The next step is to encourage students to state their own opinions and follow the steps to back up their thoughts.

<p align="center">Prove It! Character Traits, Setting, Plot, Theme, Topic, Ideas</p> <p>Opinion: <u>Karana was a brave character.</u></p>
<p align="center">Prove it! Gather evidence from the text that supports your opinion.</p> <p align="center"><i>Page 47, last paragraph paraphrased:</i></p> <p align="center"><i>At the start of the day below the cliffs, Karana spots her dead brother surrounded by wild dogs, yet she still rescues his body.</i></p>
<p align="center">What does that mean? Analyze and explain how the evidence supports your opinion.</p> <p align="center"><i>This episode clearly demonstrates Karana's bravery. Although she was alone on the island, she faced the danger of the wild dogs to save her brother, because it was the right thing to do.</i></p>
<p align="center">Connections! Connect the text to other text, yourself, or the world.</p> <p align="center"><i>Karana's bravery reminds me of Akiak. Even though Akiak faced danger from an injured paw and the elements of the deadly Alaskan wilderness, she chose to leave the safety of the rescue team, so she could find and lead her team to victory. Her bravery made her determined and to never give up. I think Karana has these same characteristics, so I predict she will survive on the island, because she will never give up, even when faced with danger, to survive or to do the right thing.</i></p>

Prove It!

Character Traits, Setting, Plot, Theme, Topic, Ideas

Opinion: _____

Prove it!

Gather evidence from the text that supports your opinion.



What does that mean?

Analyze and explain how the evidence supports your opinion.



Connections!

Connect the text to other text, yourself or the world.