Welcome to Café Palmer

BOOK TASTING IN STYLE
The ARC history

A genre based reading challenge
Why we opened a Café in the library

- Motivating reluctant readers
- Guiding advanced readers
- Adding an element of fun
The setup & prep
The class organisation

Every lesson was the same

YET

Every lesson was different
The quiet book tasting
The Café Menu

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What is it about this book that grabbed your taste buds?

Read a few pages from the first chapter. What “ingredients” of the story sound interesting to you (e.g., the characters, the setting, the plot etc.)?

Does this book appeal to your taste buds?  
YES or NO

Rate this book:

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The individual reflection
The reactions

**Student response**

“Students can discover books from different categories, possibly even categories they would not usually read, whilst having a time frame and a set number of books...I absolutely love this time and I enjoy indulging myself in the world of books.” CM

**Teacher response**

“The Café Palmer book tasting experience allowed girls to ‘dip in’ to books they might never have considered before. It helped them to go beyond their comfort zone and to share their thoughts on a variety of texts. I believe the experience genuinely sparked interest for the students across genres and improved the range and quality of reading choices throught the ARC.” CA, yr5 teacher

**Library response**

“The library borrowing went through the roof, the reservations for books presented in the café were phenomenal and the general atmosphere in the library was fun and relaxed.” TM
What did we love about the Abbotsleigh Reading Challenge?
My favourite book on the Abbotsleigh Reading Challenge was

A Waltz for Matilda

because I really enjoy reading about female heroes, especially ones like Matilda because in the 19th century women were really discriminated against. Even though Matilda is fictional, Jackie's life was like in the 1800's.

Name: Isabella B
Class: 5D
The results

- Increase in reading
- Increase in love of reading
- Discussions about reading
- Book talks improved
- Better reflection on what kind of books you like to read and why
Thoughts, reflections & changes

Amazingly successful to help focus students
Created a fun and relaxed atmosphere to the challenge
Allowed students to feel comfortable discussing books

Maybe consider which genres to focus on in order to best help reluctant readers

Actual Food??

ANY QUESTIONS?