1. Start off by reading a Zucchini themed book! (We recommend *Eating the Alphabet* by Lois Elhert; *I Heard it from Alice Zucchini* by Juanita Havill; and *Zora’s Zucchini* by Katherine Pryor).

2. Use the story or book to spark students’ interest- start asking questions about the story to individual students- “can you think of a different ending?” or “what was your favorite part”

3. Break the students up into smaller teams, and have them react to the story in different ways!
   a. Students can write a poem about a specific part of the book
   b. Students can write a continuation of the story- ask them “what happened next”
   c. Students can write an alternate version of the story
   d. Students can act out the story
   e. Students can illustrate parts of the story not shown in the book.

**Make it shorter:** No time to read a full book to your students? See if they can simply write a poem about zucchini or a story about zucchini themselves. Or, as you read a book, don’t show the pictures, and instead, have the students draw out the story as you read it to them. Students who want to can present their pictures at the end!