

Totally Fun Book Projects!

Directions: Choose one of the following projects to work on as your culminating activity to your Literature Circle novel. Be sure to plan enough time to complete this project. Effort, creativity, neatness, editing, timeliness, thoroughness, and following directions are VERY important.

Due date: Thursday, January 7th

- 1) **Children's Book:** Turn your novel into a children's book. The objective is to simplify the story's plot and convert it into simple language suitable for children. You are "boiling down" the novel into a simpler version. Include illustrations, a very important part of children's literature. Carefully choose appropriate scenes and details that would be relevant to children, leaving inappropriate scenes out. Some small changes to the story can be made in an attempt to make the plot appeal to children. Bind your book with an interesting cover. Look at several children's books to help get ideas. Be sure to edit your writing carefully.
- 2) **Logbook:** Create a logbook, written in the voice of one of the main characters in your novel (not Stew Cat). In the form of an actual journal (homemade of course), write a series of journal/logbook entries from the point of view of your chosen character. The objective is to pretend that you *ARE* the character, speaking in *their* voice, writing to yourself, someone else in the story, or maybe to someone who will someday find your journal. (If you choose to write as Timothy, you can imagine that he knows how to write and you do not need to write using his dialect, unless you want to.) Each journal entry must be related to the book and must also have some type of relevant drawing, picture or map that fits with the events in that part of the story. The journal should be **8 to 12 entries long**, with each entry being at least **3 paragraphs in length**, and demonstrate a great deal of thought, effort and work. Be sure to edit your writing carefully and set up each entry like a diary or letter.

Important Notes:

- 3) **Newspaper:** In this project you will produce a newspaper. In some articles, you will be presenting the facts in the story and in others you will be putting on your thinking cap to present different aspects of the book in a creative format. All articles, headlines and pictures will relate to the story you have read.

Your newspaper should include:

- ✓ Two feature articles with headlines (at least 3 paragraphs each). Example feature articles include a summary or review of the book, an interview with a main character that details some of the book's main events, a description of an important event in the book, a look at the historical time period of the book (ex. WWII)
- ✓ A large picture (with a caption) that goes along with your feature articles
- ✓ The name of the newspaper, headlines, illustrations, and captions. Everything should be appropriately related to topics/themes from the book
- ✓ Two advertisements, selling something particular from your story (be creative!)
- ✓ An obituary stating lifetime accomplishments (research how these are written!)
- ✓ A week-long weather report which relates to your story, with a graphic or picture of the weather
- ✓ A letter to an advice columnist about a personal problem one the characters had and a reply giving advice (be sure to research examples of this)
- ✓ At least TWO other "fun stuff" items appropriate to the novel (horoscope, classifieds, game/crossword, comics, etc.)

*It is VERY important that you edit your writing carefully. The newspaper should be **typed** and formatted like a newspaper. Look at actual newspapers for inspiration! You can use Publisher to format your newspaper, or type in Word, and then cut and paste everything onto your newspaper.

- 4) **Poetry Book:** Write a collection of original poems (a **minimum** of six) which, in some way, capture the spirit of your novel. Each poem should focus on a different aspect of the novel: the characters, scenes, themes, the time period, setting, etc. Any poem format or structure is suitable, but specific types may only be used once. Fully edit and revise each poem, tweaking for excellence and preciseness. Each poem should be *creatively* presented on a separate page (illustrations, color, decorative script, etc.). Each poem must demonstrate a great deal of thought, effort, and work. When considering length, compare this option to the other project options. Bind your poems into a book of poetry with a colorful cover and title.

-----CUT HERE AND RETURN-----

My name is _____, and I have decided to do the _____ book project. I understand that the due date of this project is on **Thursday, January 7**. I am so excited, I can barely stand it! I am going to do my best, and I will do great! Go, me! ☺

Student signature: _____ Parent signature: _____