

Literature Circles – Your Responsibilities

For each meeting, you are responsible for arriving having done the following:

<p>Read up to the page number your group agreed to read to – you can read ahead, but you cannot give away any spoilers!</p>	<p>Select one short passage that you really liked, to share with the group – you will read this passage to the group and share <u>why</u> you liked it.</p> <p>Some reasons why you might like a passage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - you liked the way the author used words, punctuation, or structure (think Exploding Paragraphs) - you liked the imagery the author used and the pictures it made in your head - you had a deep, personal connection to the writing - the passage helped you understand the story better - the passage helped you understand a character better 	<p>Make at least one connection to what you read and be prepared to share it with the group.</p> <p>Focus on connections to things we have explored in class this year, paying particular attention to our work in Social Studies and our Mindset work.</p> <p>You might also consider a text-to-self connection, a text-to-text connection, or a text-to-world connection.</p> <p>Be prepared to talk about how this connection (or these connections) help you understand the story or the nature of the author’s invented world or one of the characters on a deeper level. Be specific.</p>
<p>Have one thick question to ask your group.</p> <p>Remember that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - thick questions do not have a yes or no answer or only one answer - thick questions are questions that will help create a rich discussion - thick questions are questions that everyone might have a different answer to 	<p>Find a section or an idea that helps establish relevance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why are we reading this book? Why does it matter? How does it change your life? How does it change the way you think about the world or about people? 	

Before a Lit Circle Meeting

Before each meeting, you'll need to carefully and thoughtfully read the pages your group set as their target. While you read, use your sticky notes to prepare yourself for the next meeting. If you are a quick reader or you tend to get caught up in the story, you might want to read once for pleasure and then again to fulfill your responsibilities.

Use your sticky notes to:

- Mark where the passage is that you would like to share with the group
- Make notes to yourself about why you liked that passage
- Make notes about your connections
- Make notes about your question
- Make notes about relevance

After you finish reading the chapters for the week:

- Transfer the ideas from your stickie notes to your large graphic organizer—this is important because it will help you feel confident during the Lit Circle, and also because we may not have time to talk about all your ideas, so your written notes will help shape your assessment
 - Passage—make sure you add details about why you liked this passage; try to be specific
 - Connect—add ideas about how this connection helps you understand the book and/or the character(s) better
 - Question—ask yourself: is this an open-ended question? Could it lead to a fun or interesting conversation?
 - Relevance—why does what you've read matter? How might it help you in the future?

If you've read ahead: remember that all of the above needs to come from the assigned chapters only—**no spoilers!**

After a Lit Circle Meeting

Right after each meeting, you'll need to write a Reflection sheet.

Then:

Transfer your sticky notes to your comp book.

Then:

Prepare for your next meeting!

Note: if you want to do more writing or drawing about what you are reading, use your comp book. Just remember to write down the date and the title of the book you are reading. You can show me these ideas and drawings at any point during the Lit Circle process. This might be particularly useful if you feel like you weren't able to fully express yourself verbally during the Circle.