

Independent Reading Projects

Name _____

As an eighth grade student, you will be completing 4 independent reading projects during this school year.

Your independent reading should:

- ✓ Involve a novel/or given story that is at or above your reading level.
- ✓ Involve the analyzing of themes, characters, and author's style.
- ✓ Be approved by the teacher before the project begins.

By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, you will have completed four of the activities below. Complete each activity on a separate piece of paper or poster board. You will have to choose a different type of project for each reading. You will receive a copy of the chart for each cycle, with your project from the last cycle marked out. Please write your name on the line labeled "Name"

Create a painting, sketch, mosaic, sculpture or collage that reflects the character development and/or theme in the novel/story. This should be neat, creative, and show effort.	Write a letter to a character in the book. Include your reaction to the events in the book, your feelings about the character's choices, and what you think the character should do now. (At least one page long)	Drama: Perform a live monologue from the character's voice or prerecord an interview with the character and a reporter. Use lighting, set design, costumes, and elements of drama to perform in an engaging and realistic manner
Describe an exciting event from the book as if you were a sports broadcaster. You can record the broadcast or write 1 page which captures the setting, characters, and mood of the vent.	Rewrite the ending to your novel/story in an insightful way. Should be at least 2 pages, should capture the voice of the character, and show insight into their development	Create a graphic novel version of your novel/story. Use technology or free-form to create at least 20 frames that include significant scenes and dialogue. Illustrate creatively.
Think about the relationship of the setting to the story. Could this story have happened in another place? Why or why not? (At least one page long)	Create a movie trailer for the book that includes appropriate images, script, and music to convey the themes and character development. IMovie is an excellent app to use.	Theme is the underlying message of a piece of text. Decide what you think the theme is and write an essay on that theme. Support your answer with two pieces of evidence from the text. (At least one page long)

Literature Project Rubric

<p style="text-align: center;">A Exceeds Standards</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Content</u> Presentation clearly analyzes the insightful development of themes and characters throughout the book by explaining the changes over the course of the plot. Evidence from the text and clear explanations are given.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Creativity</u> The style of project is well chosen, enhances the overall themes and character analysis, and adds a unique element to the presentation of the novel's content.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Effort</u> The project appears to have taken careful and extensive time and effort. Elements of the project are polished, free of errors, and pay considerable attention to detail and aesthetic appeal.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">B Meets Standards</p>	<p>Presentation analyzes the development of the theme and characters throughout the course of the plot, but may at sometimes be surface-level. Evidence from the text and explanations are given.</p>	<p>The project creatively displays the content in a relevant and appropriate way.</p>	<p>Project appears to have taken effort and is evidenced by neatness, correctness, and attention to detail.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C Progressing Toward Standards</p>	<p>Analysis of the development of theme and character development is surface level and vague. Little evidence from the text is given and explanations are not clearly developed.</p>	<p>The project lacks originality and thoughtful insight into how to display or present the content.</p>	<p>Project appears to take minimal effort as evidenced by little insight into the project's purpose (i.e. a title, author, and printed out pictures from the internet) but is free of errors and follows directions.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">D Below Standards</p>	<p>A simple theme or character trait is given without any mention of how they were developed throughout the text. Little to no textual evidence and/or explanation.</p>	<p>The project displays no creation by the student (all content was created by others from internet or the media).</p>	<p>The project was chosen as an easy way out as it messy, does not follow directions, or offers no insight into the meaning of the text.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">U Not Meeting Standards</p>	<p>No theme or character development mentioned. No evidence that student even read the book.</p>	<p>Fill in your own word about how awful this was to witness.</p>	<p>The project appears last minute and thoughtless as it contains errors, is difficult to read, and messy.</p>