

Literature Circles

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Group Members: _____

Schedule

Meeting	Date	Pages Read	Role
#1			
#2			
#3			
#4			
#5			
#6			

Meeting Agenda

Each time your lit circle group meets, you need to complete the following tasks:

1. Share and discuss each person's role for that week in an order that makes sense to your group.
2. Complete your test questions for that section of reading—submit one copy of the questions for the group by the end of the class period.

The Connector

Meeting #:

Reading Assignment: pg ____ - pg ____

Directions: Your job is to find 3-5 connections between the book and you, and between the book and the wider world. This means connecting the reading to your own past experiences, to happenings at school or in the community, to stories in the news, to similar events at other times and places, to other texts (books, movies, television shows, songs, etc.), or to other people or problems that you are reminded of.

Connections:

	Event/information in Book	What I'm Connecting It To (outside text, personal experience, world/historical event, etc.)	How They Connect (What connection do they have? How does one help us better understand the other?)
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Literary Luminary

Meeting #:

Reading Assignment: pg ____ - pg ____

Directions: Your job is to locate 3-5 special sections or quotations in the text for your group to talk over. The idea is to help people go back to some especially interesting, powerful, funny, puzzling, or important sections of the reading and think about them more carefully. As you decide which passages or paragraphs are worth going back to, make a note why you picked each one. Then jot down some plans for how they should be shared. You can read passages aloud yourself, ask someone else to read them, or have people read them silently and then discuss. Jot down questions you want to ask about them, too!

Passages:

	Page No. & Paragraph	Reason for Picking	Plan for Discussion/Questions
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Illustrator

Meeting #:

Reading Assignment: pg ____ - pg ____

Directions: Good readers make pictures in their minds as they read. This is a chance to share some of your own images and visions. Draw a thoughtful, detailed picture related to the reading you have just done—something that will help everything think about the book in a new, deep way. It can be a sketch, cartoon, diagram, or flow chart. You can draw a picture of something that happened in your book, or something that the reading reminded you of, or a picture that conveys any idea or feeling you got from the reading. Any kind of drawing or graphic is okay—you can even label things with words if that helps. Remember, you're going to be explaining it to your group, so make it clear!

My Illustration:

Word Wizard

Meeting #:

Reading Assignment: pg ____ - pg ____

Directions: The words a writer chooses are an important ingredient of the author's craft. Your job is to be on the lookout for 3-5 words that have special meaning in today's reading selection. If you find words that are puzzling or unfamiliar, mark them while you are reading, and then look up their definition and use each one in an original example sentence to help others understand the word and its part of speech. You may also choose words that stand out somehow in the reading—words that are repeated a lot, used in an unusual way, or provide a key to the meaning of the text.

Words:

	Page No. & Paragraph	Definition and Original Example Sentence	Reason for Choosing/Importance
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Summarizer

Meeting #:

Reading Assignment: pg ____ - pg ____

Directions: Your job is to prepare a brief summary of today's reading that includes 3-5 key events from the story or experiences the protagonist has. The other members of your group will be counting on you to give a quick (one to two minute) statement that conveys the gist—the key points, the main highlights, the essence—of today's reading assignment.

Key points or events:

	Event or Experience (Who, what, when, where, and why)	Reason for Choosing/Importance
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Researcher

Meeting #:

Reading Assignment: pg ____ - pg ____

Directions: Your job is to dig up 3-5 pieces of information on any one topic related to your book that might help you and your group members better understand the story. This might include...

- Geography, weather, culture, or history of the book's setting
- Information about the author, her/his life, and other works
- Information about the time period portrayed in the book
- Pictures, objects, or material that illustrate elements of the book
- History and derivation of words or names used in the book

Investigate something that really interests you—something that strikes you as puzzling or curious while you are reading. Make sure you research a topic that hasn't already been addressed, and that you use credible sources (university websites, newspaper websites, The History Channel—not just random people's blogs, and no Wikipedia!!)

My Topic:

Fact/Statistic/ Anecdote	Importance (How does this help you better understand the story?)
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Directions: Use this chart to help you formulate strong test questions about your book.

- White and light gray areas: good word combinations for writing multiple-choice reading comprehension questions.
- Darker gray areas: good word combinations for short-answer critical thinking questions.

		Q Chart					
		is are was	did do does	can	could should would	will	might
Who							
What							
Where							
When							
How							
Why							