**Literature Circles**

Students will begin working in Literature Circles. These will be groups of 3 to 4 students who read a book/text. These assigned readings will involve all members of the group having a designated role that rotates weekly. Literature circles are an excellent way for students to practice and apply skills and strategies in context. **Literature Circles will meet on Tuesday’s and Friday’s.**

**Norms for Literature Circle Discussions:**

* Be prepared for our scheduled literature circle meetings
* Be respectful of each other’s ideas
* Be active listeners and participants
* Don’t hesitate to ask each other questions
* Use evidence to support your ideas

**Roles:**

**Discussion Leader**

1. Think about the section in the book that you read for today. Write a summary and consider the following questions.

What struck you in this part of the text?

* What questions do you have?
* How can you connect this to historical or current day events?

Write three quality prompts that can be used to start a good discussion about the book in your group. Use the checklists to help you create good prompts. My prompts could spark a good literature discussion because they

* are open-ended (might begin with why or how)
* make my group members think deeply
* relate to the book
* help my group members relate the text to their own life experiences or encourages my group members to express alternative viewpoints
* are interesting and lead to further questions or discussion.

**Literary Luminary**

1. Write a passage from the text. It should be a significant section of the novel or something that surprises or intrigues you. Make sure to include quotation marks and the page number.

2. Explain the significance or perspective of the quote. Why is it significant? Striking? How does it help the readers understand the characters or themes of the text? What perspective does it show/not show? Your reflection should be 7-8 sentences.

**Connector**

Write a passage or summarize a section of the text. Make a connection to your life, other texts you have read, movies you have seen, historical knowledge, or something in society. What does it make you think about? Why is it important in the text and to yourself or the world? This should be 7-8 sentences.

**\*Vocabulary:** In addition to these roles, all students should keep track of new vocabulary words.

**Process:**

1. Sit in a circle with your literature circle group. Identify your Discussion Leader, Literary Luminary, Connector and Vocabulary.

2. The Discussion Leader should designate a chapter or designated amount to be read in the allotted time period. All students should then decide how the reading will take place aloud, round robin, silently, pairs etc..

3. The Discussion Leader will then provide the 3 prompts to be discussed with the group.

4. Continuing around the circle each person responds to the prompts that the Discussion Leader has shared in less than one minute. The purpose of the response is: to expand on the presenter’s thinking and the issues raised, to provide a different view, to question or clarify the Discussion Leader.

5. After going around the circle with each person responding in less than one minute, the discussion leader who began has the “final word.” In no more than one minute, the Discussion Leader responds to what was said by the other students. Now what is he/she thinking? What is his/her reaction to what was heard?

6. The Literary Luminary, Connector and then Vocabulary should then be shared. Follow the same process as above. In a four person group, each round should take no more than 5-6 minutes.

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