

Literature Circles Planner

A literature circle is a group of students that are reading the same book. When they meet, they discuss the parts of the book they have read and plan for the next session. Often, Literature Circles are enhanced with extra “assignments” – making time lines to help understand the book better, or writing a chapter from a different character’s point of view, or researching a historical element of the text, illustrating a scene*... or whatever the students feel would increase their appreciation of the book. They may choose to do these assignments individually, in pairs, or as a whole group.

Use this form to help you plan your Literature Circle.

Literature Circle for the book

_____ by _____

Names of Literature Circle students:

1. _____ 4. _____

2. _____ 5. _____

3. _____ 6. _____

What are some assignments that will help you understand and appreciate what you read?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

**suggestions for specific assignments can be found on abcteach.com*

Literature Circles
Notes

Literature Circle Group _____

Date _____

As you read sections of this book, write down any vocabulary words you would like to understand better. Also, be sure to make notes about questions you would like to ask the group, and important points that you've noticed that you'd like to share with the group. Write the page number or key words to help you remember what inspired your thought.

Today's section: _____

Vocabulary words:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Questions:

Notes:

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Date Due: _____

Pages: _____ to _____

Literature Circle Role

Discussion Leader

Your job:

Write questions for your group to discuss. The questions should have to do with the section of the book you're reading. Be sure your questions are interesting and open-ended so everyone will be able to answer it in their own way.

Examples: Were you surprised when ___? Why or why not?
Do you think the main character made a good choice when he/she ___?
Why do you think the main character decided to ___?

When you meet with your group:

You will read your questions to the group and give everyone a chance to answer. After everyone has answered, share your answer with the group.

Question #1: _____

Your Answer: _____

Question #2: _____

Your Answer: _____

Question #3: _____

Your Answer: _____

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Date Due: _____

Pages: _____ to _____

Literature Circle Role

Word Wizard

Your job:

Your job is to search for words in this section of the book that you (or others in your group) might not know. After you find challenging words, tell where they are used in the story and find the definitions.

When you meet with your group:

First, share the challenging word you found. Show them where it is in the story. Then, have each person try to predict the definition. After everyone has shared their definitions, you can tell them the real meaning of the word.

Word #1: _____ Page Number: _____

Copy the sentence this word was used in. _____

Definition of the word: _____

Word #2: _____ Page Number: _____

Copy the sentence this word was used in. _____

Definition of the word: _____

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Date Due: _____

Pages: _____ to _____

Literature Circle Role

Story Connector

Your job:

Your job is to find parts from this section of the the story that remind you of things that happened in another story you've read. Then, describe how the two stories are alike.

When you meet with your group:

Describe the event from the story you're reading and tell how it connects to another story you have read before. Describe the similarities to the group. Then, ask if anyone else can make other story connections.

Event from this story: _____

Something similar happened in another story when: _____

Another event from this story: _____

Something similar happened in another story when: _____

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Date Due: _____

Pages: _____ to _____

Literature Circle Role

Illustrator

Your job:

Draw a picture of one scene from the section of the book you're reading. Your picture should be colorful and have lots of details.

When you meet with your group:

Have each member of the group describe what's happening in your picture.

Name: _____

Book Title: _____

Date Due: _____

Pages: _____ to _____

Literature Circle Role

Real-Life Connector

Your job:

Your job is to find parts from the story that remind you of things that happened to you or someone else in real life. When you describe the real-life connection, give as many details as possible.

When you meet with your group:

Describe the section of the story that reminds you of real life. Then, tell how something similar happened to you or someone you know. After that, you can ask everyone in your group if anything similar has happened to them or someone they know.

Event from the story: _____

Something similar happened to me (or someone I know) when: _____

Another event from the story: _____

Something similar happened to me (or someone I know) when: _____

Literary Luminary-Literature Circles

Name: _____ Book: _____

Date: _____ Assignment: _____

Literary Luminary: Your job is to choose a paragraph or sentences from the book to discuss with your group. Your purpose is to help other students by spotlighting something interesting, powerful, funny, puzzling, or important from the text. You can read parts aloud yourself, or ask another group member to read them. Include your reasons for picking the paragraphs or sections you did. Please record the page number and paragraph.

Paragraph and reason for choosing:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Literature Circle Role Descriptions



Summarizer

1. Complete the summary section of your worksheet. Be sure to include only the important characters and events. Don't try to tell everything that happened!
2. Be prepared to read your summary to your team. (Practice your presentation in advance.)
3. After you read your summary to the team, help them to write their own summaries on their worksheets.



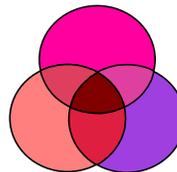
Vocabulary Finder

1. Choose 2 new words from your reading assignment.
2. Write each word and its page number on an index card.
3. Write the definition of each word on the back of the card.
4. Be prepared to teach the words to your team. To do this, read the sentence from the book and discuss the meaning of the word. Then everyone will write the words and meanings on their worksheets.



Question Writer

1. Create 3 to 5 interesting discussion questions.
2. Try to think of questions that will get your circle group to dig into the book and share their thoughts and opinions.
3. Write each question on an index card.
4. After you discuss the questions with your team, everyone will choose two to write on their worksheet, along with their answers.



Story Mapper

1. Choose a story map or graphic organizer:
 - * Character Map
 - * Story Elements Map
 - * Venn Diagram
 - * Other
2. Map the story using the graphic organizer.
3. Be prepared to explain the parts of your map to your team. Tell why you chose to use that story map. Help everyone complete this section of their worksheet.

Story Cube

Step 1: Cut out the shape.

Step 2: Fold along the lines.

Step 3: Tuck and glue the gray tabs inside the cube.

