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 timelines 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
Assign tasks to each student for the next meeting.

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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:

________________________________________

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________________________________________

________________________________________

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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: __________________________
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: _______________________________________________________

Super Teacher Worksheets - www.superteacherworksheets.com
Literature Circle Role

Summarizer

Your job:
Write a summary that describes what happened in this section of the book. Be sure you write in complete sentences and include lots of details. Your writing should fill most (or all) of the lines below. If you need more space, continue on the back.

When you meet with your group:
You will read the summary to the group. Ask them to tell you about other important parts you may have missed. Have each person tell you about their favorite part.

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Super Teacher Worksheets - www.superteacherworksheets.com
Literature Circle Role

Story Connector

Your job:
Your job is to find parts from this section of 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: ________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
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.
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.______________________________________________________________________
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4.______________________________________________________________________
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5.______________________________________________________________________
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### 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.
Step 1: Cut out the shape.

Step 2: Fold along the lines.

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

Who are the main characters in this story?

What is the main problem in this story?

What is the setting of this story?

What is your favorite part of this story? Why?

Which character is the most like yourself? Why?

Was this story funny, serious, scary, or sad, or happy? Why?