Independent Reading: First Six Weeks

**READING SCHEDULE:**

You are expected to read your book at home and meet the deadlines in the schedule. Tasks will be done in class, with the exception of the final project.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Read to Page | Task |
|  |  | Get book |
|  |  | Page 1 |
|  |  | Page 2 |
|  |  | Page 3 |
|  |  | Page 4 |
|  |  | Page 5 |

Every Monday, you will complete a page of a comic book about your hero. When we are all done you can staple the pages together and proudly claim that you have created a graphic novel based on a novel you read!

**APPROPRIATE TITLES:**

Any book with a journey in it will work. Most fantasy books fit this requirement, as do most young adult novels. The project will be easier if the character goes on a physical journey, but even if they stay in the same place the whole time, they will go on some kind of emotional journey. If you’re stuck, you might consider anything from the following series:

* *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*
* *His Dark Materials*
* *The Hunger Games*
* *Divergent*
* *Uglies*
* *Harry Potter*
* *The Lightening Thief*
* *A Wrinkle in Time*
* *Eragon*
* *Lord of the Rings*
* *Graceling*
* *House of the Scorpion*

# Independent Reading Rubric

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * Advanced
 | Proficient | Nearly Proficient | Far to go |
| * Compete
* Tidy, colorful, and detailed
* Shows understanding of assigned reading
* Quotation is well chosen to support claim about character's journey
 | 3 descriptors | 2 descriptors | 0-1 descriptor |

Reflection:

Which phrases from the rubric above describe your work on this independent reading project?

If you could do this project again, what would you do differently? Why?

Journal Questions:

JOURNAL ONE

1. Who is the hero or protagonist of your book?
2. Is he/ she a warrior? A leader? Both? Neither?
3. What do you know about their birth or origins?
4. Do they have a special weapon or tool?
5. In what ways are they heroic? (Consider how they are better than or different from the other characters)
6. What motivates the protagonist?
7. What American values or traits do they embody?
8. What are their failings or weaknesses?

JOURNAL TWO

1. Who is the antagonist or bad guy?
2. What motivates the antagonist?
3. Who are the hero’s friends? How do they help or support him or her?
4. What is the setting of the story? Describe the physical place (yes, buildings and rooms, but also cities, states, nations, etc). Describe the culture (who’s in power, how do they get power and how do they keep it, what do people believe, is there a style of dress, etc).
5. What major cultural events or locations appear in the story?

JOURNAL THREE

1. What prompted the hero to embark on a journey?
2. What is the hero seeking? (It might be a literal thing or a something figurative such as a better understanding of himself)
3. How has the hero been tempted or distracted from continuing their journey? How did they deal with this temptation?
4. What people or creatures has the protagonist met along their journey? How did these individuals help the protagonist?

JOURNAL FOUR

1. Did the protagonist go somewhere that most people don’t or can’t go? Explain.
2. What is the protagonist’s biggest fear? How did he or she face it? What happened when they did?
3. What happened when the protagonist confronted the antagonist? (This is the climax)
4. How did the story end?