

FROM THE DESK OF:

# Ms. Harvey

May 15, 2020

Dear Ascension families of rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders:

The end of this school year has not been what we all planned it to, but summer is finally upon us! As such, it is time to turn our attention to lazier days and also to summer reading.

I have thought a great deal about summer reading and which books would be the best fit for each grade level, and I have settled on these choices:

- 6th Grade: *Greenglass House* by Kate Milford
- 7th Grade: *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
- 8th Grade: *Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

I think that each of these books will provide an excellent foundation for us to jump into our literature study for this school year. I have chosen to have each student complete the same project—a File Folder Book Report—as well as a 500 word short research essay. All of the details in this assignment are included in grade level specific materials that are being sent out in conjunction with this letter.

If you have any questions or if any issues crop up related to summer reading while we are out of school, I will check my email each Monday and Thursday morning through the summer and try to answer any questions and troubleshoot any problems. You can email me at [jharvey@ascension-parish.com](mailto:jharvey@ascension-parish.com).

More than anything, I look forward to the day when we can all safely return to the classroom, and I am looking forward to a very exciting year with each of my students!

Happy summer and happy reading,

Ms. Harvey

**7th Grade Summer Reading**  
**Ascension 2020-2021**  
**Ms. Harvey, Language Arts**  
**Due Date: First day of School**

Introduction

Summer reading has a large impact on students and their achievement. It can improve reading comprehension and stamina, vocabulary, and written expression. It can build empathy and awareness about cultures, historical time periods, and life experiences different from our own. Summer reading also provides a working baseline from which to measure the student's growth in reading and writing throughout the school year.

**Assignment Details**

- Book to read: *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
- Book availability: In addition for being available for purchase in all local and national bookstores, this book is also available for free as an ebook through the Louisville Free Public Library. A PDF of the entire text is also available through Google. If you are unable to purchase, find, or borrow the book, please contact Ms. Harvey as soon as possible.

1. File Folder Book Report Project worth 50 points.

A PDF for the File Folder Book Report has also been sent out to parents. If students do not have access to a printer, they can reproduce the questions/responses on loose leaf or construction paper to create their file folder book report project. If you are unable to open the PDF document for the File Folder Book Report, please contact Ms. Harvey, and she will arrange for a printed copy that you can pick up in the Ascension Office.

2. Research Essay of 500 words worth 25 points. Essay planner worth 15 points.

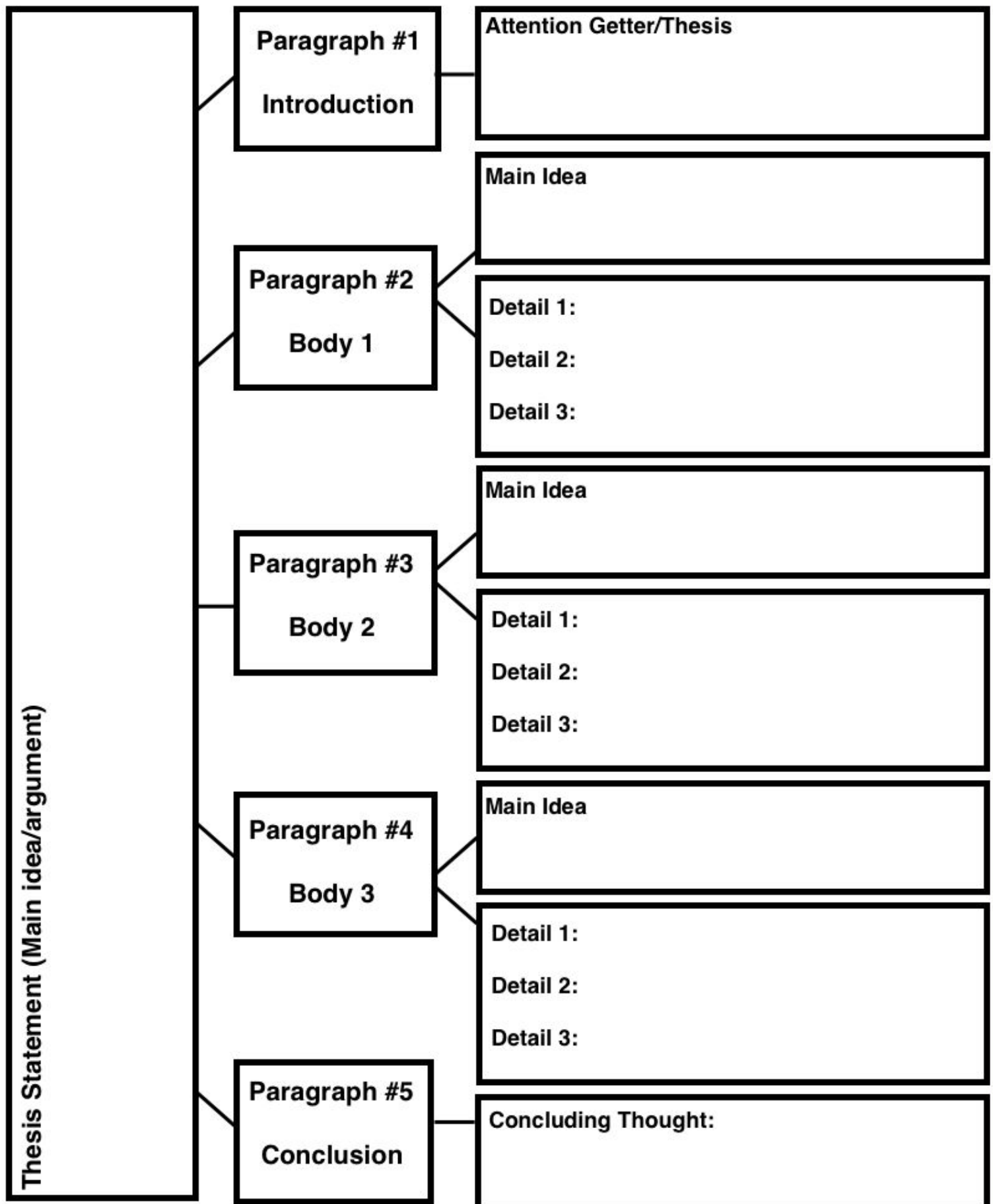
If the student needs more room for the essay planner or if the essay planner cannot be printed, it is completely fine for the student to plan their essay on loose leaf paper. If the student is unable to type their research essay, they may hand write it on loose leaf paper, skipping every other line on the paper for clarity. If the student is unable to print their essay to turn it in, it can be emailed to [jharvey@ascension-parish.com](mailto:jharvey@ascension-parish.com) by the first day of school.

**Research Essay**

Students will write a five paragraph essay. They will plan their essay using the PDF essay planner included with this assignment. Topic choices are:

- What is segregation? How did it come about and what has been done to eliminate it? Is segregation still a problem?
- What is sharecropping? What is its history and what was life like for a sharecropping family? Does sharecropping still exist?
- What was the Great Depression? What were some of its causes and how did people deal with its effects? Has anything like the Great Depression been experienced since then?

# 5 PARAGRAPH ESSAY OUTLINE





# Summer

## READING

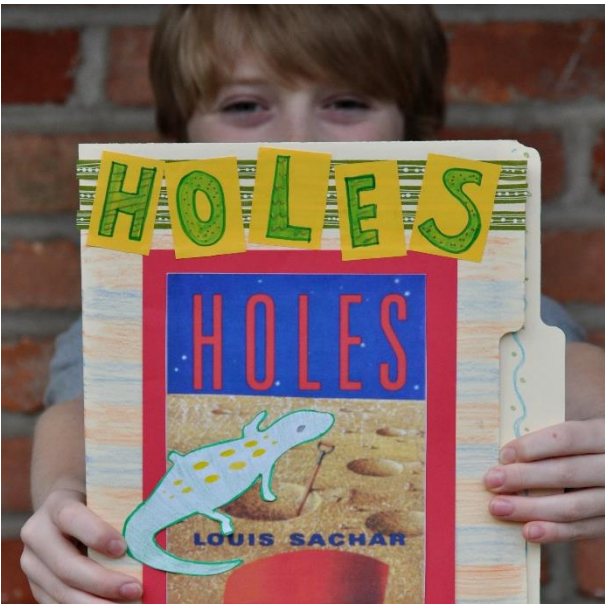
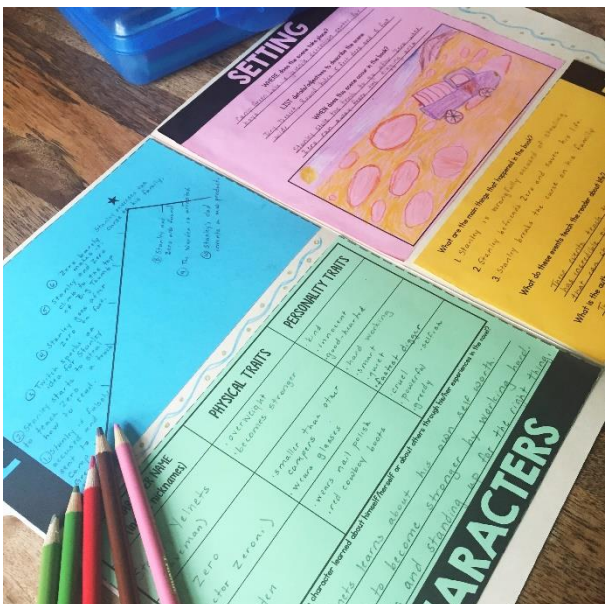
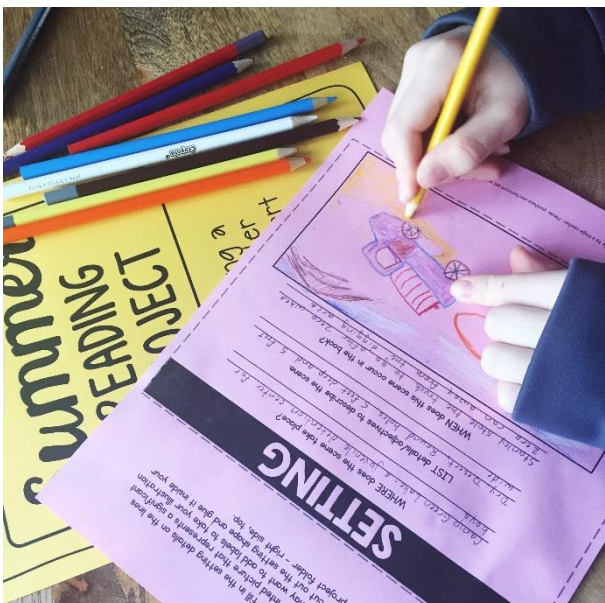
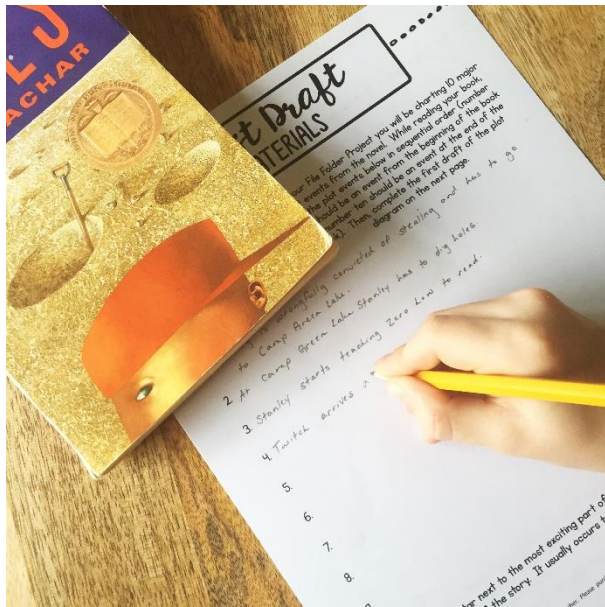
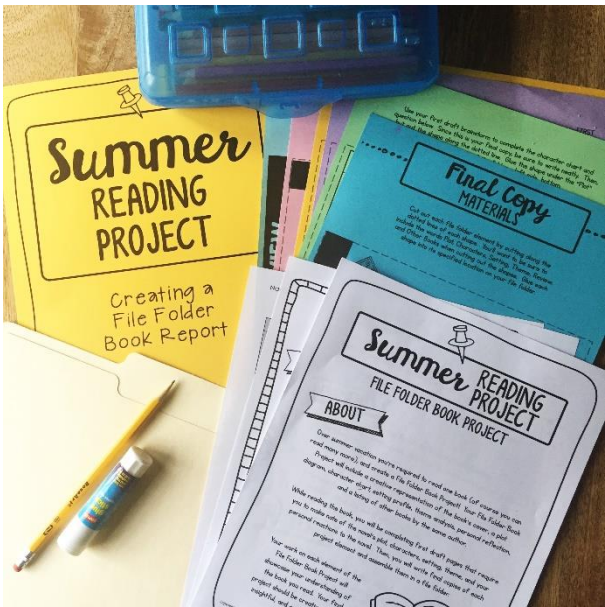
## PROJECT

Creating a  
File Folder  
Book Report

Name \_\_\_\_\_



# Summer Reading Project





# Summer READING PROJECT

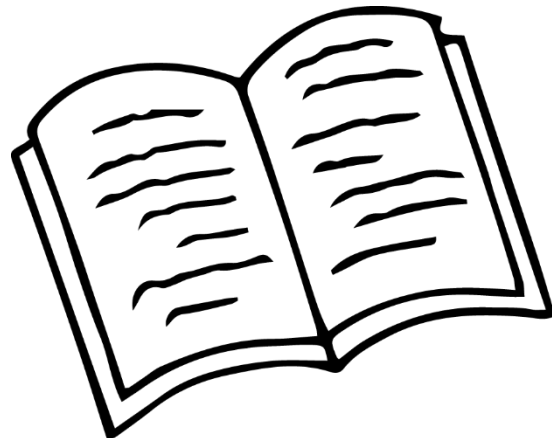
## FILE FOLDER BOOK PROJECT

### ABOUT

Over summer vacation you're required to read one book (of course you can read many more), and create a File Folder Book Project! Your File Folder Book Project will include a creative representation of the book's cover, a plot diagram, character chart, setting profile, theme analysis, personal reflection, and a listing of other books by the same author.

While reading the book, you will be completing first draft pages that require you to make note of the novel's plot, characters, setting, theme, and your personal reactions to the novel. Then, you will write final copies of each project element and assemble them in a file folder.

Your work on each element of the File Folder Book Project will showcase your understanding of the book you read. Your final project should be creative, detailed, insightful, and created with care!





# EVALUATION



Your final project will be graded on your work on the first draft materials AND the quality of your work on the final File Folder Project. Check out the rubric to see exactly how your project will be evaluated. You should showcase your understanding of the novel and your creativity when completing the project.

# ELEMENTS

Your file folder will include the following:

- A picture of the book's cover (illustrated by you or found on the internet)
- A plot diagram
- A character chart
- A setting review including an illustration (either by you or from another source)
- A theme analysis
- A personal reflection (over 12 sentences long)
- A listing of other books by the author of the book you read

# MATERIALS

To complete your File Folder Book Project, you'll need:

- A book to read (something appropriate for your reading level)
- This packet filled with the directions, pre-write activities, and rough drafts
- A set of the final copy pages that you will be placing inside your File Folder Book Project
- A manila file folder
- Scissors, glue, colored pencils, and other decorative elements

# FILE FOLDER BOOK PROJECT GRADING RUBRIC

	4	3	2	1
Required Elements	The final file folder project includes all the required elements of the assignment as well as additional information.	All required elements are included.	All but one of the required elements are included.	Several required elements are missing.
Content	The project reflects deep understanding and accuracy regarding the book.	The project reflects understanding and accuracy regarding the book.	The project reflects some understanding and accuracy regarding the book.	The project reflects little understanding and accuracy regarding the book.
Originality	Several of the elements of the final product reflect an exceptional degree of creativity and originality.	Several elements reflect student creativity in their creation and/or design.	Few elements reflect student creativity in their creation and/or design.	No evidence of creativity and originality.
Attractiveness	The final project is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness.	The final project is attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness.	The final project is acceptably attractive, though it may be a bit messy.	The final project is distractingly messy or poorly designed.
Grammar, Mechanics, and Spelling	Grammar, mechanics, and spelling are correct throughout the project.	There are one – two errors in grammar, mechanics, and spelling.	There are three errors in grammar, mechanics, and spelling.	There are four or more errors in grammar, mechanics, and spelling.

TOTAL: First Draft Packet \_\_\_\_\_/15 + File Folder Book Project \_\_\_\_\_/20= \_\_\_\_\_ / **35**



# Summer

# READING PROJECT

## FILE FOLDER BOOK PROJECT

### STEPS

1. Select a book to read that is at your reading level.
2. While reading your book, make notes about the novel's plot, characters, setting, theme, and your personal reactions to the book. Make your notes on the FIRST DRAFT pages.
3. After you have finished your book and completed all of your FIRST DRAFT pages, review your work. Check your work for accuracy, spelling, mechanics, and grammar. Find ways to improve your first draft pages. Remember, your work on the FIRST DRAFT will also be graded.
4. Begin working on your FINAL COPY pages. Write neatly. Do your best work!
5. Assemble your File Folder Book Project.
  - You will need:
    - Your FINAL COPY pages
    - A file folder
    - Glue
    - Scissors
    - Any pictures you plan to include (For example: the book cover, other books, a scene from the book)
    - Art Supplies to "jazz up" your project (markers, glitter, stickers, colorful paper)
  - Follow the template for how to put together the file folder.
6. Review your File Folder Book Project. Make sure that it is free from errors and represents your best effort.
7. Place your FIRST DRAFT materials inside of the file folder. Bring your File Folder Book Project back to school on \_\_\_\_\_.

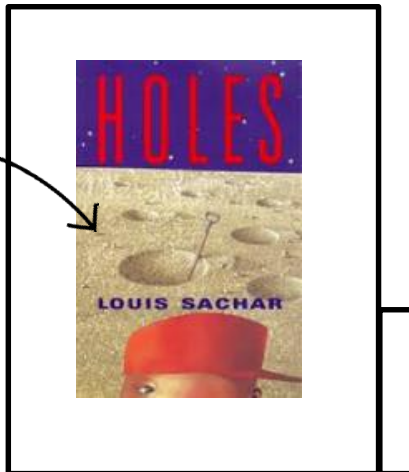
# Summer

# READING PROJECT

## How to assemble the FILE FOLDER BOOK PROJECT

### FRONT COVER

Book Cover Design



### INSIDE

Plot Diagram

<b>PLOT</b>	* ↓	
	↓	
	↓	
CHARACTER NAME (include nicknames)		
PHYSICAL TRAITS		
PERSONALITY TRAITS		
What has the main character learned about himself/herself or about others through his/her experiences in the book?		
<b>CHARACTERS</b>		
<b>SETTING</b>		
WHERE does the scene take place?		
LIST details/objectives to describe the scene.		
WHEN does this scene occur in the book?		
What are the main things that happened in the book?		
1.		
2.		
3.		
What do these events teach the reader about life?		
What is the author's message or theme?		
<b>THEME</b>		

Setting Description & Picture

Character Chart

Theme Analysis

### BACK COVER

Personal Review

<b>REVIEW</b>	_____
	_____
	_____
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	_____
	_____
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	_____
	_____
	_____
<b>OTHER BOOKS</b>	

Listing of Other Books by the Same Author

# First Draft

## MATERIALS



PLOT

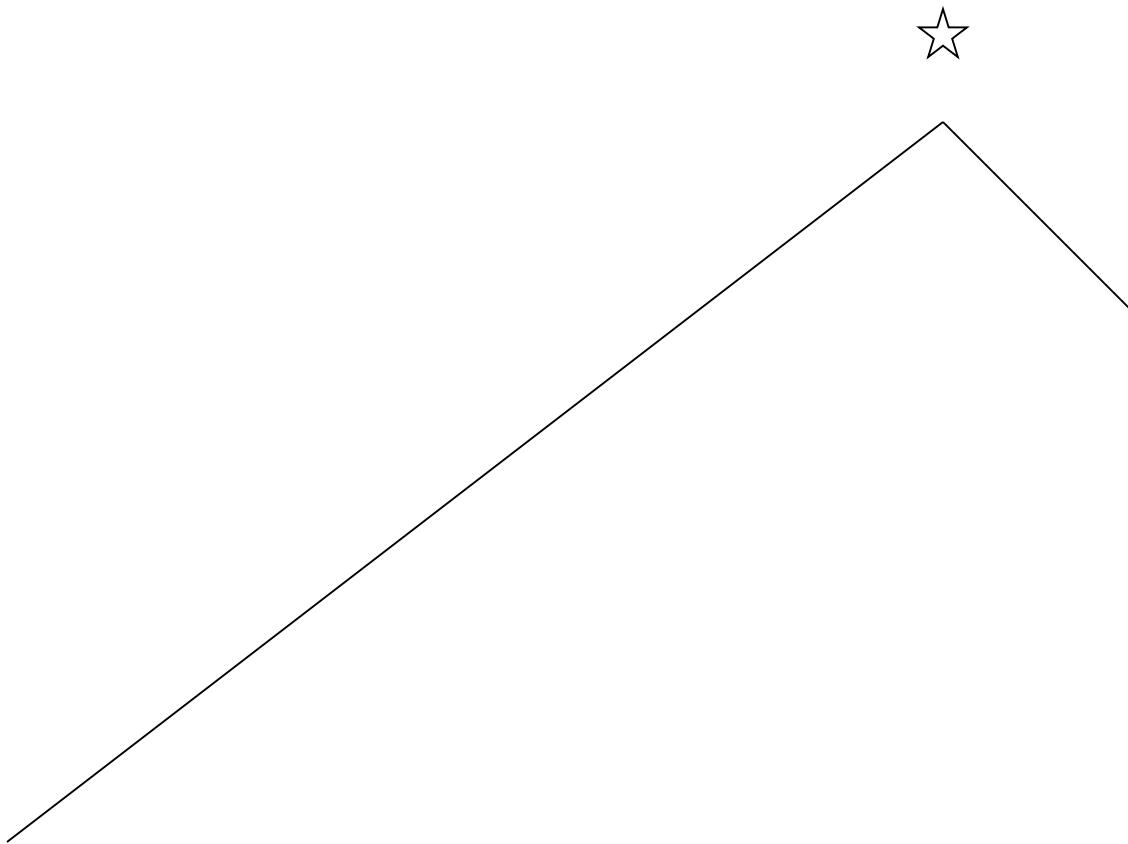
In your File Folder Project you will be charting 10 major plot events from the novel. While reading your book, list the plot events below in sequential order (number one should be an event from the beginning of the book and number ten should be an event at the end of the book). Then, complete the first draft of the plot diagram on the next page.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Now...place a star next to the most exciting part of the novel. This will represent the **climax** of the story. It usually occurs toward the end of the novel.

# PLOT DIAGRAM

Plot the ten events on the diagram below. This diagram will be your first draft. The event that you put a star next to will be the climax of the story. The events leading up to the climax will be the rising action of the plot. After the climax, the remaining events will be the resolution or falling action.



## NEXT STEPS:

- Review the spelling and punctuation of the plot diagram.
- Transfer the information from the first draft onto the final copy plot diagram provided to you.
- Glue the final copy of the plot diagram to the inside of the folder - left side, top of the folder.

# CHARACTERS

Choose three significant characters from the book. Complete the chart below. List the characters' names (include nicknames if applicable). Fill in the physical traits section of the chart with information about the way characters look and dress. The personality traits section of the chart should include what the character acts like.

CHARACTER NAME (include nicknames)	PHYSICAL TRAITS	PERSONALITY TRAITS

**Answer the following question.**

What has the main character learned about himself/herself or about others through his/her experiences in the novel?

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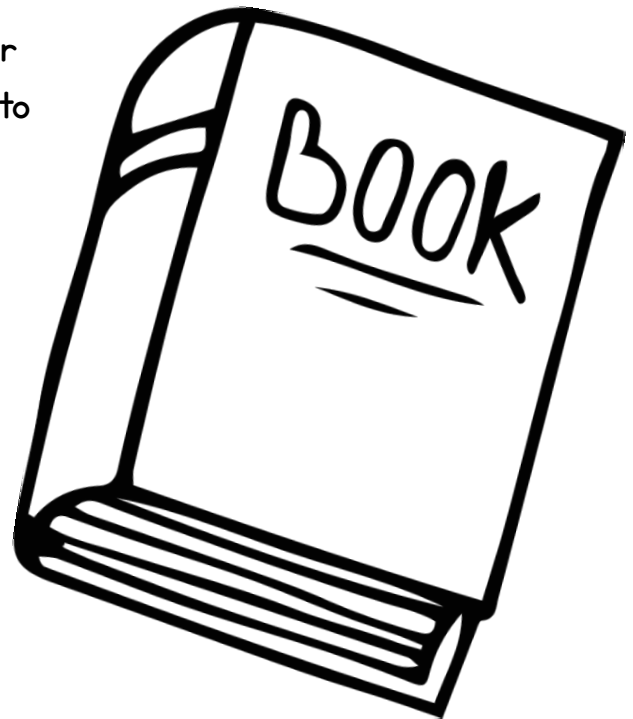
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# CHARACTERS

## NEXT STEPS:

- Take a look at the character traits that you included in the chart. Are there any words that can be swapped out for more advanced vocabulary? Is it possible to add even more traits for each character?
- Review the spelling and punctuation of the first draft character chart and short response question.
- Transfer the information from your draft to the final copy character chart provided for you.
- Glue the final copy of the character chart and short response question to the inside of the folder - left side, bottom of the folder.



# SETTING

Select a memorable scene location from the book (examples - bus stop, friend's house, park, desert).

WHERE does the scene take place?

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LIST details/adjectives to describe the scene.

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WHEN does this scene occur in the book?

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For the final file folder you will need to include a picture or illustration of the scene you described above. Here are some options for the scene picture:

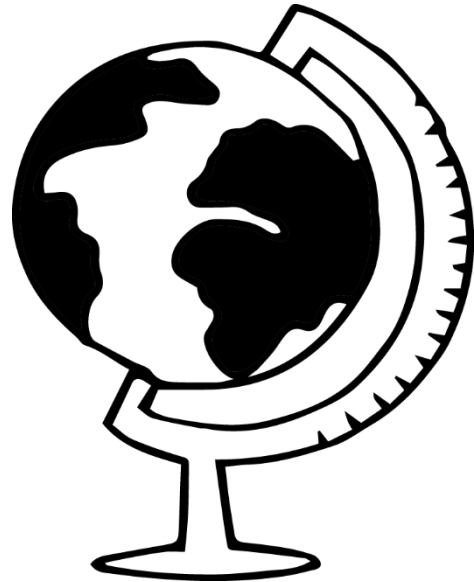
- Draw the scene.
- Print a picture to represent the scene location.
- Cut out magazine pictures to represent the scene location.

The box below represents the amount of space you will have for the scene picture. Practice or plan out your illustration below.

# SETTING

## NEXT STEPS:

- Take a look at your plan for the setting picture. You'll want to make this image visually appealing. Consider ways to make it colorful and bold.
- Review the spelling and punctuation of your answers in response to the questions about the setting.
- Transfer the information from your draft to the final copy setting space provided for you.
- Glue the final copy to the inside of the folder - right side, top of the folder.





# THEME

When you have finished reading your book, you can complete this page in your  
FIRST DRAFT packet.

You need to determine a theme for the book. The theme should be a lesson or  
message that applies to the world (not just the story). It's what the author  
wants the reader to learn about life.

To determine the theme consider:

What are the main things that happened in the book?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What do these events teach the reader about life?

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What is the author's message or theme?

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# THEME

## NEXT STEPS:

- Review the spelling and punctuation of the first draft of your theme analysis.
- Transfer the information from your draft to the final copy theme analysis space provided for you.
- Glue the final copy to the inside of the folder - right side, bottom of the folder.







# REVIEW

It's time to get reflective about the book you read. Answer the following questions in a very thoughtful and detailed manner. Restate the question in each of your responses.

1. What were your feelings after reading the opening chapter(s) of this book? After reading half of the book? After finishing the book?
2. Did the book make you laugh? Cry? Smile? Cheer? Explain your reaction or add your own.
3. What connections are there between the book and your own life? Explain.
4. What are the best parts of the book? Why?
5. What are the worst parts of the book? Why?
6. Do you like the way the book ended? Why or why not?
7. Rate the book between 1-10 (ten being the highest). Explain your rating.



# REVIEW

Now, combine your answers to the personal reflection questions 1-7 to create a well-developed paragraph. Practice below.

FYI - At least twelve well-written sentences need to be included. The lines below represents the amount of space provided for the review. If you run out of room add an additional piece of paper and tape it to final copy paper provided for you.

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## NEXT STEPS

- Review the spelling and punctuation of the first draft review above.
- Transfer your writing to the final copy review paper provided for you.
- Glue the final copy to the back of the folder along the top.

# OTHER BOOKS

List other books written by the same author as the book you just read.

Here are some ways to locate the titles of other books:

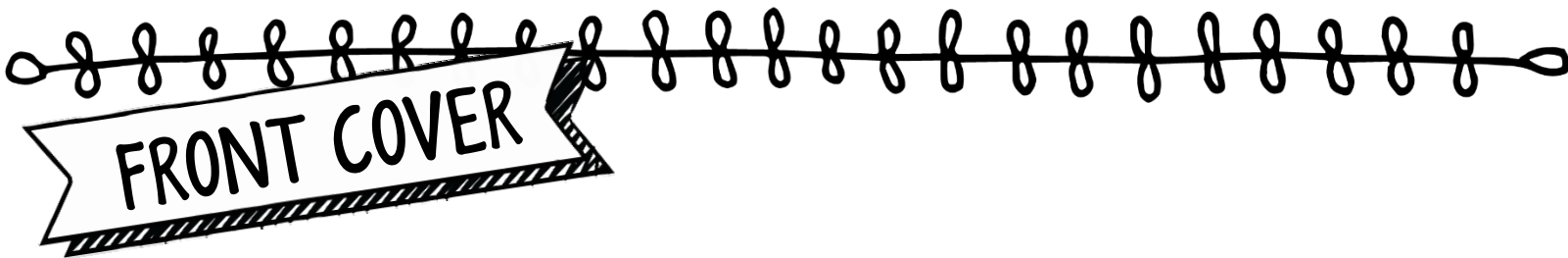
- Look for other titles listed in the book.
  - Go to the library.
  - Search the internet.

Be sure to use the correct capitalization and punctuation rules when writing each title.

List the titles below:

## NEXT STEPS

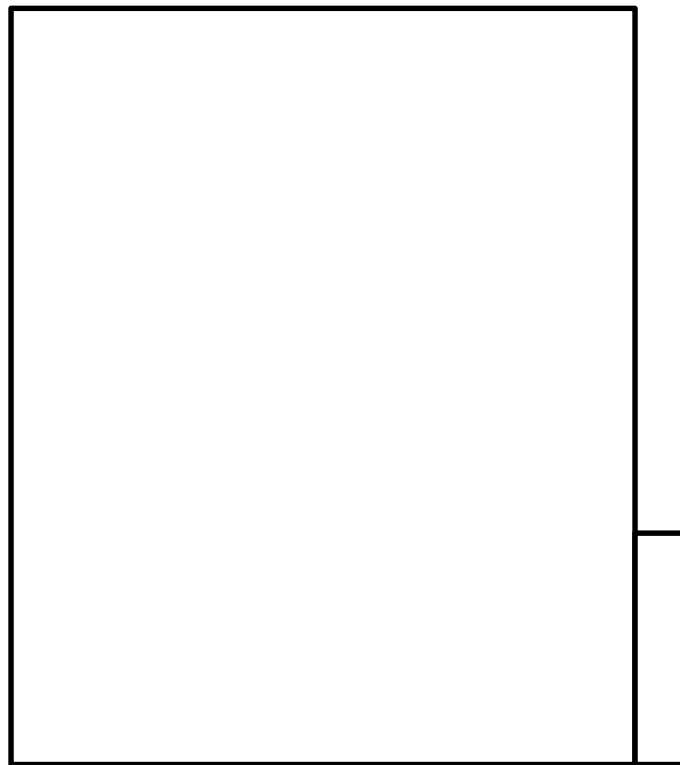
- Review the spelling, capitalization, and punctuation of the titles above
- Transfer the listing of titles to the “other books” space provided for you.
- Glue the final copy to the back of the folder along the bottom.



The front cover of your project should be bold, creative, and high quality.  
It must include the book's title and author.

Brainstorm ideas for your project cover design below. You may want to try to get an image of the book cover from the internet, draw your own illustration, or design a new cover. Feel free to add other images that relate to the novel, decorations, and creative elements to the cover.

### COVER BRAINSTORM:



### NEXT STEPS:

- Make sure you have a creative design for your front cover.
- Assemble the materials you will need and then design your project's front cover.



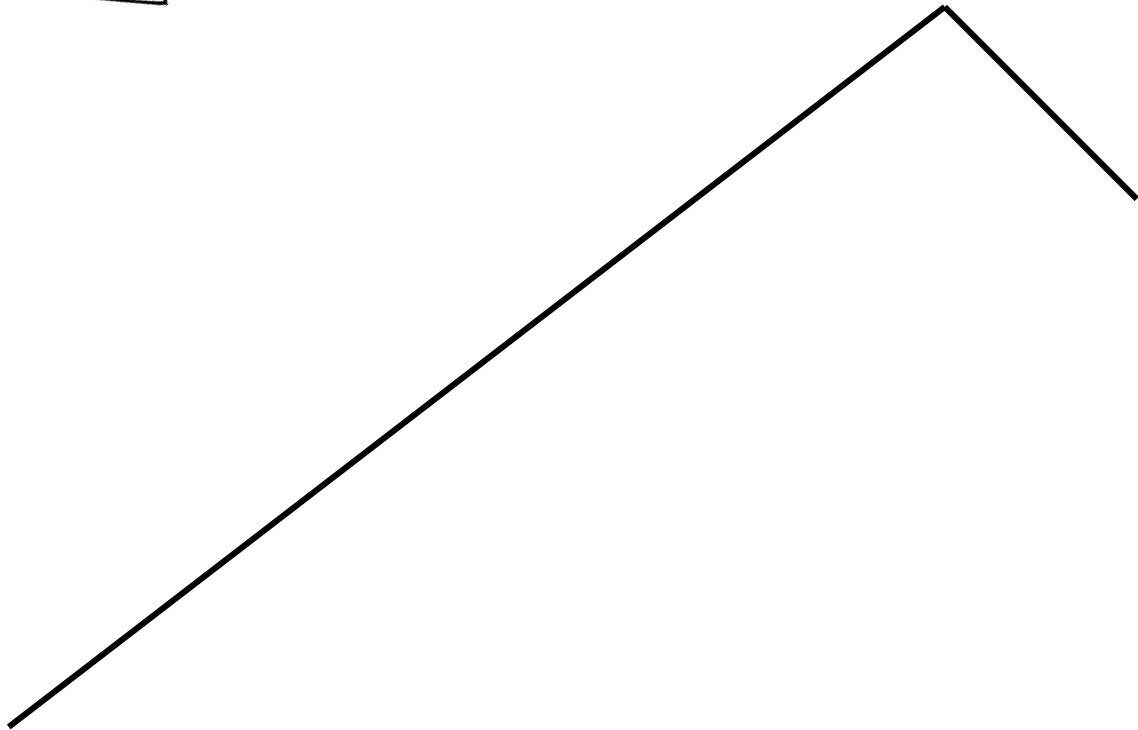
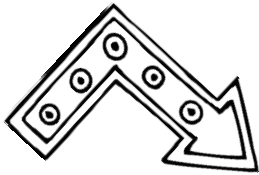
- SAVE this PACKET! After you complete your Summer Reading Project, stick this packet inside your folder and turn it in with your File Folder Project. The completion of this packet is also part of your grade.
- Remember that your Summer Reading Project will be your teacher's first impression of you at the start of the next school year, so make sure to showcase your best effort.
- Try to complete this project throughout the summer. Spread out the assignments and tasks. Trying to complete your reading, the drafts, and the final copy only days before it's due would be a major undertaking.
- Don't be afraid to put a creative spin on your project. Add color, pictures, and decorative elements to take your project to the next level.
- Read through all of your final copy elements to make sure that your grammar, mechanics, and spelling are correct.
- If you run out of room to write any of the final copy materials, continue your response on another piece of paper. Then, attach your paper to the file folder.
- You're welcome to type any or all of the elements of this project. You'll just want to size your typed worked so that it fits in the folder correctly.
- Don't let this project limit you to reading only one book this summer. Read a bunch of books!



# Final Copy

## MATERIALS

Cut out each file folder element by cutting along the dotted lines of each shape. You'll want to be sure to include the words Plot, Characters, Setting, Theme, Review, and Other Books when cutting out the shapes. Glue each shape into its specified location on your file folder.



Use your first draft brainstorm to complete the character chart and question below. Since this is your final copy, be sure to write neatly. Then, cut out the shape along the dotted lines. Glue the shape under the "Plot" shape on the inside of the folder - left side, bottom.

CHARACTER NAME (include nicknames)	PHYSICAL TRAITS	PERSONALITY TRAITS

What has the main character learned about himself/herself or about others through his/her experiences in the novel?

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# CHARACTERS

Use your first draft brainstorm to fill in the setting details on the lines provided. Then, draw or add a printed picture that represents a significant setting from your book. You may want to add labels to take your illustration to the next level. Finally, cut out the setting shape and glue it inside your project folder - right side, top.

# SETTING

WHERE does the scene take place?

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LIST details/adjectives to describe the scene.

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WHEN does this scene occur in the book?

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Use your first draft brainstorm to fill in the theme details below. Then, cut out the theme shape and glue it inside your project folder - right side, bottom.

What are the main things that happened in the book?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What do these events teach the reader about life?

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What is the author's message or theme?

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**THEME**

Write you're a final copy of your personal review below. Then, cut out the shape.  
Finally, glue the shape to the back of the folder along the TOP.

# REVIEW

Lined writing area for the review.

Use the listing of books by the same author that you compiled in your FIRST DRAFT to fill in the shape below. Include books by the same author. Then, cut out the shape. Finally, glue the shape to the back of the folder under your REVIEW.



**OTHER BOOKS**