**Rationale: Why Are We Doing This?**

Creating a lifelong reading habit is one of the best things each of us can establish for ourselves. Reading allows us to not only grow in our vocabulary and our capacity to understand the written word, but it allows us to make connections with other cultures, texts, ideas, people, and places. The goal is to keep on growing in this area this semester and successfully read two books this semester.

**Requirements:**

* You are required to read two books during the course of this semester (one per quarter. If you read them both in third quarter, that is acceptable, but you may not read them both in the fourth quarter).
* They can be either fiction or nonfiction—that choice is up to you. Perhaps you would want to read one nonfiction book and one fiction book. Or, if reading fiction is a task that is normally difficult for you, then try choosing two fictional books from different genres (science fiction and mystery, for example).
* Your books **must** eachbe at least 200 pages in length in order to meet this requirement.
* These books must not have been made into a movie or play.

**Culminating Projects:**

One project must be completed and submitted per nine weeks **for both books**. Your project options include:

* Make a (free) Goodreads.com account and write a review. Your review should be 3-4 paragraphs in length. This is very practical way to show your understanding about the book and give readers your recommendation about it (should others read the book? WHY? WHY NOT?). See Ms. Lowe or Mrs. Wertz for this information.
* Complete **one** of the projects on the back page.
* Give a 3-5 minute “book talk” to our class about your book. A book talk is kind of like a movie trailer, but instead, it’s for a book. See Ms. Lowe or Mrs. Wertz for this information.

**Some class time may be allotted to independent reading. However, you will need to read outside of class at home in order to finish your book and complete the assignments.**

Project #1 Due Date: Monday, March 17th, 2014 (Right after the Ides of March)

Project #2 Due Date: Monday, May 19th, 2014

**Column 1 Column 2 Column 3 Column 4**

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| Create a map of the town or place where the story takes place (setting.) Give specific details. Include three paragraphs that describe your map.­­­­­­­­­­­ Make sure your map has a legend (or key). | Create a comic strip for a new scene in the book. You must include dialogue that is appropriate for the characters/setting/plot. The comic strip must have at least five three-panel comics. | ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­Research a topic brought up in your book. Write a five paragraph essay demonstrating your findings. | Create an advertisement for your book. This should include a poster that draws the audience into the story. Your poster should have characters, settings & background information. Include a summary to “hook” your audience. |
| Draw a favorite part from the book – don’t copy an already existing illustration. Write three detailed paragraphs about your drawing and how it represents the novel. | Create a soundtrack for your book. Include ten to fifteen songs. Make a CD album insert including, title, artwork/pictures, summary of book, explanation for each song chosen, lyrics of each song chosen. | What do you have in common with the characters in the story? Include personal traits, physical traits, actions, family situations, etc. Use paragraph form (five paragraphs) to present your shared characteristics. | Pick a significant scene from the book to act out to communicate the author’s message about a theme. You must write a script for your play, and it must be two to four minutes long when acted out. |
| Create a diorama that depicts a scene from your book. Include a paragraph that gives the observer details to help them understand the scene.  OR Create an artifact/object that has to do with the book’s characters or plot. Write a paragraph about this object, why/how you made it, and what it shows about this book. | Create a “Wanted” Poster for the villain in your story. Explain their dirty deed and why they are wanted as well as a physical description.  **Give specific details**-at least one paragraph.  ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­ | Write a comparison-contrast essay (at least five paragraphs) that compares this novel to another book you have read. | Create an ABC PowerPoint. Use every letter to show something about the characters, events, symbols and themes. Use lines from the book and find pictures to support each slide. Set your slide show to music that reflects the mood and or theme of the novel. |