

Book Report Assignment 1st Marking Period

Directions: For this marking period, you will read a book that largely centers around the environment, a particular ecosystem, or an environmental issue. You must select a book to read that is at your reading level and has been approved by Mr. Faupel. After finishing the book, you must select one of the following options to do as a book report:

1. **Interview a character** from your book. Write at least ten substantive questions that will give the character the opportunity to discuss his/her thoughts and feelings about his/her role in the story. Make sure you include the character's responses to your questions. Responses to questions need to be more than just a sentence or two, and need to provide details from the book. Make sure to describe the ecosystem that your story takes place in and/or the environmental issue in your book.
2. **Write a diary** that one of the story's main characters might have kept before, during, or after the book's events. Remember that the character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary. Your diary may consist of one entry or several entries. Make sure you describe the ecosystem and/or environmental issue in your book in at least one entry. Make sure to include a date for each diary entry. Remember, YOU are the main character.
3. **Write a letter** to or from the main character of your book. You may write the letter as yourself, the main character, or another character from the book. You may ask questions, protest a situation, make a complaint and/or a suggestion. You may also write about an event or events that occurred in the book. Your letter must describe the ecosystem and/or environmental issue in your book. This must be done in the correct letter format (i.e. date, greeting, closing, signature, etc.)
4. **Write a Traditional Book Report:** Answer the following questions in separate paragraphs. Remember, a paragraph consists of at least 3-5 quality sentences.
 - Paragraph 1: Describe the setting of this book in detail. When and where did the story take place? Was the location of the setting a real place, or was it a different world?
 - Paragraph 2: Describe the main character(s) and explain their importance to the story. What did they look like? How did they act? Also describe one or more of the supporting characters. What were the characters' opinions of the environment?
 - Paragraph 3: Write a summary of the story, explaining the important events (This may take more than one paragraph). What was the main problem in the story? How was that problem solved? What was the ending of the story?
 - Paragraph 4: What did this book have to do with the environment or a specific ecosystem? Was there an environmental issue that the book focused on? If so, explain. What did you learn about ecosystems/the environment by reading this book?
 - Paragraph 5: What is your opinion of this book? Would you recommend it to others? Why, or why not?

All reports must:

- Include specific details from the book, so that I can tell you read the book.
- Discuss the setting, characters, plot (main events), and resolution (ending) of the story.
- Describe the ecosystem(s) and/or environmental issue discussed in the book.
 - What type of ecosystem (biome) was it?
 - What kinds of plants/animals lived there?
 - What was the weather/climate like?
 - Was there a problem in the environment? If so, what was it and how did it affect the living things in the ecosystem?
 - What did you learn about ecosystems/the environment by reading this book?
- Correctly follow the format chosen from above, adding your own creativity.
- Be free of spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes (use spell-check and have someone proofread your report before you turn it in).

Minimum Length Requirements:

6th Grade: 300 words

7th Grade: 350 words

8th Grade: 400 words

Due Dates

- September 20- Choose book and get it approved by Mr. Faupel
- October 14- Finish reading book
- October 21- Rough Draft of Book Report Due
- October 28- Final Draft Due

This assignment will be worth 100 points for language arts and 25 points for science. Drafts may be turned in any time before their due dates. Do not put this assignment off until the last minute! You will have some time in class to read your book, but some work will need to be completed at home.

1st Marking Period Book Report Rubric

Student Name: _____

Grade Received: _____

Criteria

Points / Points
Earned / Possible

All parts of the assignment were completed and turned in on time _____ / 10

The Setting (time and location) of the book is described _____ / 5

Characters (major and minor) are identified and described _____ / 5

The main problem (conflict) of the story is explained _____ / 5

Several important events from the plot are described _____ / 10

Tells how the story ends (resolution) _____ / 5

Description given of the ecosystem and/or environmental issue found in the book _____ / 20

Correctly follows directions from the assignment sheet for chosen format, and shows creativity and effort. Meets minimum grade-level length requirement. _____ / 20

Spelling/Grammar/Punctuation/Sentence Structure _____ / 15

Neatness/Formatting _____ / 5

Total: _____ / 100