

Quarter 1 - Outside Reading Assignments

Every student is responsible for reading 3 books and completing one project for each book.



Book #1 = Historical fiction book from the list below.

1. *Golden Goblet* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw (Egypt)
2. *Bound* by Donna Jo Napoli (China)bound
3. *Shadow Spinner* by Susan Fletcher (India)
4. *Mara, Daughter of the Nile* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw (Egypt)
5. *Pharaoh's Daughter* by Julius Lester (Egypt)
6. *Beast* by Donna Jo Napoli (Persia)

Books can be obtained by:

- BMS Library
- Inter-Library loan from BMS
- Barrington Public Library
- Inter-Library loan from Barrington Public Library
- Purchase

- Choose one project from Book #1 list of Projects.
- **The Book #1 Project due on Friday, September 16th**. Because this is rather soon, on Friday, September 9th students will have a SSR (sustained silent reading) period to help complete the reading on time.

Book #2 = Realistic fiction book of your choice. Parent and teacher approval required.

- Choose one project from Book #2 list of Projects.
- **The Book #2 Project due on Wednesday, September 28th**.

Book #3 = Historical fiction book of your choice within the choice guidelines. . Parent and teacher approval required.

Choice Guidelines: any topic except U.S. History events. Additionally, you may not choose the historical fiction topic relating to the World War I, World War II. Grade 8 is Ancient Civilizations!!!

- Choose one project **either project list** but it may not be a project that you have already completed.
- **The Book #3 Project due on Tuesday, October 25th**.

Every student must present once in the quarter.

Please refer to presentation page for more information.

Project Options: Quarter 1, Book #1

- Letters to the author and character.
 - Write two letters. One letter is written to the author and a second is written to a main character.
 - The content of the letter must include (but is not limited to) **one compliment and one concern you have about the author/character's decisions.**
 - Each letter must be less than one page typed. The letter is from YOU at the PRESENT time therefore it does not need to resemble a letter written long ago.
 - Each letter must be authentic – letter format, envelope, etc. (addresses to the best of your ability).
- Story Writing:
 - If this writing project is chosen for Book #1, the social studies connection books, you must keep the same setting and time period but change the character. Concerning the conflict, you may change or keep the same.
 - If this writing project is chosen for Book #3, your historical fiction book, you must keep the same character, time period, and setting yet change the conflict.
 - Story must be typed. No creative formatting is permitted. Formatting: Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double spaced, one inch margins, no clipart, typed heading.
 - Maximum 4 pages!
 - The story must have a complete plot including exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. It must have a very clear conflict that is resolved.
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- Scale model of setting with description/effect on the plot
 - Your product must fit in the LA room on the bookshelves. Watch the width!
 - You may use any materials.
 - Include index cards to describe three elements of the setting that had an impact on the plot. This is a very important part of the project; it is the place that I can understand your thinking.
- Movie Poster
 - Product must be authentic and include elements of a movie poster such as actors, dates of release, short persuasive advertising “sound bite”.
 - Movie posters must be on poster board. See models in class for size expectations.
 - See models in class for expectations!
- Wanted Poster:
 - Product must be authentic and include elements of a wanted poster; reward amount; reason for capture, biographical data.
 - See samples in class for the correct size. This is NOT a poster board project.

A Word on Project Choice...

- Your job is to show your thinking.
- Choose projects that fit your learning style.
- Use the models in the LA room to understand the expectations.
- Go for it!

Project Options: Quarter 1, Book #2

- Script
 - Script must be of a NEW event/scene that you are ADDING to the text.
 - A short explanation of why this event/scene should be added must be written on an index card and attached.
 - Please see examples in class.
 - Product must be authentic. Follow authentic formatting from samples in class.
- Timeline and Map
 - Timeline must include dates, facts, and diagrams/pictures.
 - The map of the setting must be accurate, detailed, and include a key.
 - Timeline and map may be on two different pieces of paper.
- Children's Picture book
 - The picture book retells all significant plot points (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution).
 - Your picture book must look authentic. Construction of the book is as important as the pictures and text. See samples in class.
 - If presenting, practice reading your book before you read it to the class.
- Sculpture of main character
 - The sculpture must fit in the LA room on the bookshelves or heater.
 - You may use any materials.
 - Include an index card that highlights at least 5 features of your sculpture that are significant for the character. This index card EXPLAINS YOUR THINKING during the process of making the sculpture. It is critical! Otherwise, I will not know why your decisions (such as material choice) were made.
- PowerPoint – plot line
 - Slide show must be emailed to Ms. Samolis. You MUST practice sending me a PowerPoint show.
 - Do not include sound anywhere in the slide show.
 - Your slide show must have at least one slide for each plot point.
 - Each plot point must be described and include visual aids such as pictures or SmartArt graphics.
 - Colorful graphics/formatting and animation are critical to an excellent slide show.