



SMART Ideas  
Server:  
Online  
Literature  
Circle Project





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# Setting Up Groups & Communicating With The Groups

## Setting Up The Groups:

1. Students need to be given choice in the novel selection process. Literature circles work best when students are interested and engaged in the text that is selected. These groups are meant to encourage meaningful and thoughtful interaction around a specific text. Choice encourages this engagement.
2. The teacher should facilitate the meaningful and thoughtful discussion by transferring the responsibility to the students to lead the group after clear expectations have been set. One clear guideline is to share the rubric attached within this document.
3. Students should participate in an inclusive activity at the beginning of the groups formation and briefly at the beginning of each meeting. The beginning activity can be an 'all about me' map within the student's section of the literature circle map. This 'all about me' map is to be shared at the first meeting of the group online.
4. The first meeting is also when the group decides the number of meetings, how much of the novel the group will read for each meeting, and which role each member will complete for each meeting. Each member completes one role for each meeting and shares this sheet at the meeting.

## Student Discussion Online:

Students have two ways of communicating within SMART Ideas:

1. Chat:  
Students will use the project chat function (found through CNTRL+G and selecting the current project and the "project chat" button). This communication is to assist group members in navigation within the project map (which page everyone is looking at). It is TEMPORARY and will not be marked.
2. Participant's Own Symbols:  
Students can contribute to the discussion about the role sheets for that meeting's story chunk, give feedback, and be marked on their participation by adding their specific symbol with their comments onto the map. They must keep their own specific symbol and link it to ideas that they wish to comment on, expand, or suggest further questions.



# Setting Up Groups & Communicating With The Groups

## Completing The Role Sheets:

1. Students must complete their role sheet about the relevant story chunk BEFORE the meeting.
2. This completed role sheet is then shared with the group members who have completed different role sheets on the same story chunk for the same meeting. A group member shares their sheet, the others offer feedback and discuss the topics presented. Then the next group member shares their sheet, and so on.
3. The meeting is over when all the group members have shared and feedback has been given.

## Evaluation and Assessment:

1. Students evaluate their group members in the 'Group Assessment' section of the map. They also use the rubric attached in this document to complete a self assessment.
2. The teacher uses the completed SMART Ideas file to assess each group member's performance following the completion of the literature circle.



# Literature Circle Meeting Calendar

## April 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>



# Literature Circle Meeting Calendar

## May 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



# Literature Circle

## Student Discussion Rubric

Categories	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has not read text chunk or prepared their section of the SMART Ideas concept map.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has read text chunk, but their section of the SMART Ideas concept map is incomplete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has read text chunk, and prepared their section of the SMART Ideas concept map.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has read text chunk, and thoroughly prepared their section of the SMART Ideas concept map.</li> </ul>
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rarely contributes to the online discussion and chat.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributes to the online discussion (with their symbols on the map) and chat occasionally or when prompted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributes appropriately to the online discussion (with their symbols on the map) and chat.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributes significantly to the online discussion (with their symbols on the map) and chat.</li> </ul>
Co-operation / Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conversation off topic.</li> <li>Rarely responds to the thoughts of others.</li> <li>Does not ask questions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conversation off topic at times.</li> <li>Occasionally responds to the thoughts of others.</li> <li>Occasionally asks questions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conversation on topic.</li> <li>Keeps the discussion going.</li> <li>Responds to the thoughts of others.</li> <li>Asks questions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively keeps the discussion going.</li> <li>Builds on other's comments.</li> <li>Responds to group members in a thoughtful way.</li> </ul>
Reading Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rarely discusses new vocabulary.</li> <li>Rarely makes predictions.</li> <li>Rarely makes connections.</li> <li>Limited understanding of author's style and literary elements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discusses new vocabulary in a limited way.</li> <li>Makes some predictions.</li> <li>Makes some connections.</li> <li>Discusses author's style and literary elements on occasion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discusses new vocabulary.</li> <li>Makes predictions.</li> <li>Makes connections.</li> <li>Discusses author's style and literary elements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discusses and uses new vocabulary on online posts.</li> <li>Makes thoughtful predictions that build on the ideas of others.</li> <li>Makes complex connections.</li> <li>Shows an in-depth understanding of author's style and literary elements.</li> </ul>