

Independent Book Projects and Directions

- 1. Choose three characters in the story and write a letter to each one of them.** Each letter should be one page in length, typed, and friendly letter format should be used. In the letter, you may want to give a character some advice, ask them questions, or praise them for something they did in the story. You may even be angry at the character for something they did. In your letter, you can talk to them about it. If he/she has a problem, you could help solve it. Please remember to sign your letter.
- 2. Write in a diary** as if it was one of the characters from the story. You will be writing as if you are a particular character so you will need to use the first person pronouns like I, me, we, and us. You will need to have at AT LEAST 15 entries for this project. Begin each entry with "Dear Diary." Be sure to sign your name and date each entry. Each entry should be one page in length and must be typed.
- 3. Create a Tee-Shirt** for one of the major characters in your story. For this project, you will need to first get a tee-shirt you can decorate. Then design a tee-shirt picture or slogan just right for one of your novel's characters. You may use all sorts of craft materials for your shirt. In addition to creating the tee shirt, you will need to turn in a typed paragraph that explains why you decorated the tee-shirt this way.
- 4. Make acrostics** for the title of the book and for three characters. Take a sheet of construction paper or art paper and write the title of the book down the side of the page. For each letter in the title, construct a sentence that begins with that letter and tell something significant about the story. After making an acrostic for the title, do this same thing for three different characters in the novel. For each letter of the character's name, write a complete sentence that tells something about the character's personality, or it could tell about something that happened to the character in the novel.
- 5. Make a scrapbook for your main character.** Think about all the kinds of mementos that you would put in a scrapbook if you had one. Then make a scrapbook for your character, cutting out pictures from magazines or drawing the mementos he or she would have in a scrapbook. If you have items at home you think your character would have in his/her scrapbook, you could use those things. You do not just have to draw the items or cut out pictures from magazines. Please be sure to

do this in an actual scrapbook format. Design a cover for it as well. Please use construction paper or heavy art paper to do this project . . . no lined notebook paper.

6. Make a crossword puzzle for the book you read. Include a list of 30 questions (try to make 15 down and 15 across), the puzzle, and an answer key. You might want to try to use the following site: www.puzzlemaker.com if you do not use this site, you may use graph paper and create your own puzzle. Do not use lined paper for this project.

7. Create a test over the book. Include 10 true/false questions, 10 multiple choice questions, and 10 short answer essay questions. You may modify the types of questions you include, but you still must include a total of 30 question. You need to include an answer key and the test must be typed.

8. Complete a series of five drawings that show five of the major events in the plot of the book you read. Type captions for each drawing so that someone who did not read the book can understand the illustrations. Please mount your drawings on construction paper or poster board. Do NOT use lined paper. Your drawings need to be done on typing paper or art paper.

9. Make models of four objects that were important in the book that you read. On a card attached to each model, tell why the object was important in the book. These models should be something that you create.

10. Write a letter to the author of the book telling him/her your likes and dislikes of the book. Also, include general questions that you have concerning the book. The letter needs to be two pages in length, typed, and in friendly letter format. This project is like an evaluation of the book, so it should be very detailed and thorough.

11. Select a character and figure out what three things you believe your character most needs or wants. Draw or cut out pictures to represent these "gifts" and type a paragraph to your character for each "gift" explaining why you picked these things out for him or her. These "gifts" may be tangible or intangible.

12. AMAZING activity. Complete the 15 open-ended statements below, relating the statement to the book you read. Be very specific with details from the story. It must be typed!

- Isn't it amazing that . . .
- The most amazing part of the resolution was . . .
- Wasn't it amazing when . . .
- The most amazing description was . . .
- It is amazing how . . .
- The most amazing discovery was . . .
- _____ was amazing because . . .
- The turn of events that was most amazing was . . .
- The fact that was most amazing was . . .
- The most amazing action by a character was . . .
- The most amazing lesson learned was . . .
- The most amazing quote was . . .
- The most amazing setting was . . .
- The most amazing conflict was . . .
- I am amazed that . . .

13. Create a new book jacket design for the book you read. Please include the following items on your book jacket: title of the book, author's name, picture of some kind (drawn, cut out from a magazine, computer graphics, etc.) and a catchy quote from the book that you can use to capture the attention of your audience and persuade them to read the book. No lined paper for this project. Please back your book jacket with construction paper. Include a typed summary of the book on the back of the book jacket.

14. Symbolize It! This project will ask you to look at symbols and their meaning, and it also asks you to think about the characters in your book. First, pick three characters from your book. Then decide on a symbol that might represent each character. Draw your symbols on unlined paper. Below the symbol for each character, please include a typed paragraph explaining the reason for your choice.

15. Wordsearch! Include a minimum of 15 words and give at least two complete sentences explaining why you chose each individual word. The explanations must be typed!