United States History

Mrs. Stafstrom

**Independent Reading and Book Sharing**

Read for pleasure and then share your thoughts in a small group setting

1. **Find a book** of fiction, non-fiction or biography where the events occur primarily before 1900 United States. Use the Media Center catalog, check the carts, and ask friends, families and teachers for recommendations. Consider the following websites (some you will have to register for but all are free):
   1. <http://www.goodreads.com/>
   2. Do you have a [DeKalb Public](http://dkpl.org/) Library card? If so, check out *novelist* at online sources
   3. <http://www.shelfari.com/>
2. As you read the book, **complete the attached Thumbnail outline**. This will help you prepare for Book Sharing Day. This is due on Book Sharing Day.
3. Come to **Book Sharing** **Day** on Monday, December 7th, and discuss your book in a small group (15 – 17 students) led by either Mrs. Stafstrom, Ms. Boyle or Mrs. Barnes. The discussion will follow the *Prove it in Two Minutes!* format as set forth below:
   1. You’ll have Two minutes (120 seconds) to present your book to the group (you can use your complete Thumbnail outline or notecards for assistance).
   2. You have two basic goals in the two minutes:
      1. prove that you read the book
      2. offer a clear and informed opinion on the book (and substantiate that opinion with specifics from the book)
   3. In your presentation, you must refer to your answers from Section IV of the Thumbnail outline, Reflections.
   4. Answer questions from the teacher or other students
   5. give the teacher the complete Thumbnail outline at the end of the of your presentation
   6. When not presenting, give full attention to the students who are presenting and participate by asking them comments and offerings comments.
4. Assessment – total 100 points – in the project category
   1. completed Thumbnail -- 60 pts
   2. discussion assessment – 40 pts
5. Important Dates:
   1. assign project in MC and review books, Tuesday, November 3.
   2. **Due date for book selection, Tuesday, November 10**
   3. One Free Reading Day TBA
   4. Last day to switch books, Friday, November 20
   5. **Book Sharing Day, Monday, December 7**; *Prove it in Two Minutes!* – bring book – Thumbnail outline is due

Requirements for book selection

* topic or story involves the United States, pre 1900
* minimum pages 150
* XC : 10 XC points for reading a book 250 pages or more

**Rubrics**

1. Thumbnail Outline – 60 points
   1. Main Characters/Figures /10
   2. Setting and Time Period – Key Features /10
   3. The Plot/ Story: A Timeline /10
   4. Reflections – 2 /30

Need to be complete, contain details from the book, clear

1. *Prove it in Two* presentation – 40 points – see below /40

**TOTAL: /100**

Book Presentation Rubric – *Prove it in Two!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Book: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The Student | Yes | Evident but weak | No |
| Was well-organized and prepared for the presentation. |  |  |  |
| Presented sufficient detail and examples to demonstrate that they were very familiar with the book. |  |  |  |
| Gave a clear opinion on the book based on sufficient evidence |  |  |  |
| Communicated clearly when they spoke (voice, eye contact) |  |  |  |
| Listened to other presentations **and** asked questions/ made comments |  |  |  |

**Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_/40**

* 36 – 40: Meets ALL of the following
* 32– 35: all of the above but weak in some areas or missing in one area
* 28 – 31: clear that student read the book but several weak or omitted areas
* 24– 27: not clear that student read the entire book, serious weaknesses in above areas
* 1 – 23: student says something but it’s unclear, lacking in details and student hasn’t convinced teacher they’ve read the book.
* 0 – student doesn’t present

**Comments:**