

## **TERM THREE INDEPENDENT READING PROJECT**

**A. PURPOSE: to become a more joyful, skillful and knowledgeable reader**

**B. PROCEDURE:**

1. Read books.
2. Every week, hand in a record of your weekly reading, including any book responses or analyses you have written.
3. Every week, follow the suggestions given by your teacher.
4. Be persistent! Be the kind of person today that you want to be in the future.

**C. EVALUATION:**

### **A DEVELOPING READER**

- at least 6 book responses
- at least 2 indigenous books
- at least 20 books in total

### **A PROFICIENT READER**

- at least 12 excellent book responses
- at least 8 books at grade 6+ reading level
- at least 2 indigenous books
- at least 40 books in total

### **A READER EXTENDING HER/HIS KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

- 4 excellent book analyses
- 8 excellent book responses
- at least 10 books at grade 6+ reading level
- at least 2 indigenous books
- at least 40 books in total

## BOOK RESPONSES

### Before you hand in your response, check the criteria:

1. tells enough about the book \_\_\_\_\_
2. uses vivid words \_\_\_\_\_
3. uses correct English \_\_\_\_\_
4. is neatly presented \_\_\_\_\_

### Choose any of these formats...

#### **Respond to Fiction:**

Title by Author (publisher, copyright date) is the story of [main character] who [describe the setting]. Life changes for [Main character], [describe the character], when [tell what happens to cause a problem]. And now [s/he] must figure out what to do. [Explain what happens, and add your thoughts.]

I recently read a great book called Title by Author (publisher, copyright date). The main character, [name], lives in [describe the setting]. Life changes for [Main character], [describe the character], when [tell what happens to cause a problem]. And now [s/he] must figure out what to do. [Explain what happens.] This novel is one of the most [an emotive adjective] stories I've read in a long time. I recommend it for [tell who would enjoy it].

There are many novels about [a topic]. There are many novels about [name another topic]. But Title by Author (publisher, copyright date) is unique. It [tell one unique feature of the story]. It is also [tell another unique feature of the story]. But what stands out to me the most is [tell what makes the story most special to you]. I recommend this novel for [age] to [age] year old looking for a [adjective] and [adjective] story about [topic].

Title by Author (publisher, copyright date) is like a song that is memorable because of its tune. There is a rhythm to the writing that made me want to keep reading and reading. [Quote some examples of flowing sentences; don't forget to include page numbers.] Alliteration made the writing keep flowing. [Quote some examples and give the page numbers.] Similes and metaphors added emphasis. [Quote some examples and give the page numbers.] I enjoyed the story of [briefly summarize the plot]. But what I enjoyed the most was the style of writing. Anyone who enjoys language will be sure to enjoy this novel for [age] to [age] year olds.

Have you ever felt [an emotion]? Have you ever felt [another emotion]. Then you'll know how the main character feels in the novel Title by Author (publisher, copyright date). [Main character] is [repeat first emotion]. [Describe the cause of that emotion]. [S/he] is also [repeat second emotion]. [Describe the cause of that emotion]. What should [s/he] do? What will [s/he] do? Read this [emotive adjective] novel to find out.

## Respond to Information

Did you know that GIVE AN INTERESTING FACT? Did you know that GIVE ANOTHER INTERESTING FACT? *TITLE* by AUTHOR (publisher, date) tells all sorts of AN EMOTIVE ADJECTIVE SUCH 'FASCINATING' facts about TELL THE TOPIC OF THE BOOK. I learned that TELL A FACT and TELL ANOTHER FACT. I discovered that TELL A FACT and TELL ANOTHER FACT. *TITLE* is a AN EMOTIVE WORD SUCH AS 'EXTRAORDINARY' book about TELL THE TOPIC AGAIN.

You can learn a lot about life from books. I learned some useful information from *TITLE* by AUTHOR (PUBLISHER, DATE). TELL A USEFUL FACT. TELL ANOTHER USEFUL FACT. TELL YET ANOTHER USEFUL FACT. Most importantly, I learned that TELL YOUR MOST MEMORABLE USEFUL FACT. Books are a great way to expand your general knowledge, to help you carry along facts that can help you in life. And this book is great one to read if you want to learn SUMMARIZE THE MAIN TOPIC; E.G. HOW TO MANAGE YOUR MONEY.

You can learn a lot about life from reading. I learned some useful information online at a site called *TITLE*. TELL A USEFUL FACT. TELL ANOTHER USEFUL FACT. TELL YET ANOTHER USEFUL FACT. I discovered that TELL AN INTERESTING PIECE OF INFORMATION. It reminded me of TELL YOUR CONNECTION TO THE FACTS. In the future, TELL HOW YOU MIGHT TRY SOMETHING NEW IN THE FUTURE. Who knows what will happen? I can't wait to find out!

Did you know that a microscope uses sunlight to see objects on the slide? Did you know that microscopes used to be small enough to be held by one hand? **The Microscope and a Hidden World to Explore** by Irene S. Pyszkowski (Whitman Publishing Company 1963) tells all sorts of eye opening facts about microscopes. I learned that microscopes were invented in 1637 and that with modern day microscopes you can see the makeup of cells. I discovered that there are two types of cells (plant & animal) and that for thousands of years the invisible world of cells was just that, invisible. *The Microscope and a Hidden World* to explore is an incredible book about microscopes! (Sean)

## A BOOK ANALYSIS

A. Citation/Bibliographic Entry:

B. Reliability (50 – 100 words):

C. Category (100 – 200 words):

\_\_\_ Cultural Concepts

\_\_\_ Interlocking Episodes

\_\_\_ Cumulative Pattern

\_\_\_ Chronological Pattern

\_\_\_ Main Character

\_\_\_ Informational Pattern

\_\_\_ Repetitive Pattern

\_\_\_ Rhythm-Rhyme Pattern

\_\_\_ Problem-solving Pattern (most novels):

\_\_\_ person versus nature

\_\_\_ person versus society

\_\_\_ person versus person

\_\_\_ person versus supernatural

\_\_\_ person versus self

C. Short Annotation (1 – 3 sentences):

E. Point of View (3 sentences as evidence):

\_\_\_ 1st person

\_\_\_ 2nd person

\_\_\_ 3rd person

F. Tense (3 sentences as evidence):

\_\_\_ present

\_\_\_ past

F. Literary Excellence (at least 20 examples from at least 4 categories as evidence):

Sounds of Words

\_\_\_ alliteration – repeating the beginning consonant sounds in words

\_\_\_ assonance – repeating similar sounds, especially vowel sounds

\_\_\_ consonance – repeating similar consonant sounds

Choice of Words

\_\_\_ hyperbole – exaggerating for effect; e.g. tons of money

\_\_\_ irony – saying the opposite of what is meant

\_\_\_ metaphor – comparing things not alike through implication

\_\_\_ personification – giving human qualities to nonhuman things

\_\_\_ simile – comparing things not alike by using the word 'like' or 'as'

\_\_\_ vocabulary – using precise nouns and verbs to describe scenes/emotions

Arrangement of Words

\_\_\_ length of sentences – differing lengths to create a mood

\_\_\_ repetition – repeating sounds, words or phrases for effect

\_\_\_ appositives – inserting a phrase between a set of commas or dashes

G. Connection (200 – 400 words): \_\_\_ text to self \_\_\_ text to text \_\_\_ text to world

**Citation: Trottier, Maxine. Migrant. Toronto: Greenwood Books, 2011.  
An Analysis by Maya**

**Reliability:**

I could count on this picture book to be entertaining because I have heard of *Groundwood Books*, the publisher, before and it has a good reputation. The book has also won the *Best Illustrated Children's Book Award* by the New York Times and was a *Governor General's Literary Award (Illustration) Finalist*.

**Category:**

Migrant shows a main character pattern. It focuses on the story of a young girl, Anna, whose family is always moving between Mexico and Northern Canada. She wonders what it would be like to stay in one place instead of travelling every season. The story tells what this German-speaking child sees and feels about this foreign country. Using a ton of metaphors and similes, the author, Maxine Trottier, compares Anna's life to different animals and what their lives are like. Anna has trouble staying busy while her family works because she is too young to do anything.

**Annotation:**

Anna, a little girl whose family travels from Mexico to Canada, feels like a bird who is constantly flying back and forth, north to south, when the seasons change, She wonders what it would be like to stay in one place. This imaginative picture book, beautifully illustrated, is recommended for readers 4 to 14-years-old.

**Point of View: 3rd Person**

- "There are times when Anna feels like a bird." p. 4
- "There are moments when she feels like a rabbit." p. 8
  - "Anna is too young to work." p. 14

**Tense: Present**

- "Anna is too young to work." p. 14
- "But fall is here, and the geese are flying away." p. 36

**Literary Excellence:**

**Metaphor:**

- "Her family is a flock of geese beating its way there and back again." pg. 4
  - "A bee. That's what she is during the day." pg. 11
- "At night Anna is a kitten sharing a bed with her sisters..." pg. 15

**Simile:**

- "In the other room her brothers are like puppies..." p. 18
- "... as though a thousand crickets are all singing a different song." p. 26
  - "...their words as spicy as the hottest chilis..." p. 22

- “... or as slow and rich as dark molasses.” p. 22
  - “...Anna feels like a bird.” p. 4

**Alliteration:**

- “...blanket that barely covers...” p. 16
  - “...sisters by your side...” p. 1

**Appositive:**

- “A kitten is a good thing to be, a safe thing, curled there...” p. 15
- “...puppies, growling and nipping in their sleep, fighting over...” p. 18

**Repetition:**

- “...dip and rise, dip and rise...” p. 15

**Connection:**

My connection to Migrant by Maxine Trottier is text to world. Previously in our Social Studies class, we learned about early human migration. Approximately two million years ago, people started migrating from Africa into Asia and then eventually to the tip of North America and the rest of the world. The main character, Anna, is a young girl who comes from a family of migrant workers from Mexico. According to Trottier, “Low German-speaking Mennonites from Mexico are a unique group of migrants who moved from Canada to Mexico in the 1920s and became an important part of the farming community there.

What is interesting is that I have learned that in our town there are still some local companies that will hire migrant workers for each season. For example, an aerospace facility and some farms have hired seasonal workers to increase their labour force. Unlike Anna, many migrant workers in today’s world are able to apply for permanent residency and create a new life in our country.

In the case of Anna’s family, they travel back and forth from Mexico to Canada, and do not have the living and working conditions usually reserved for residents. This constant lack of stability for Anna has therefore created a lack of a proper childhood — at least one that looks like the one I had — and this book both beautifully illustrates and communicates the hardships of a child of a migrant worker in so few words.