

Literature

Circles

Roles

MBrown  
Div.

Grade	Criteria for Participation in Literature Circles
4	<p><b>Forming Groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settle into groups quickly and quietly</li> <li>• You've come prepared with your assignment at start of class</li> <li>• You share the class space effectively</li> <li>• Face to face interaction with furniture arranged to facilitate this</li> <li>• Use an appropriate volume of voice</li> <li>• Help others to be organized and on time</li> </ul> <p><b>Participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enthusiasm about the book keeps the conversation about the book going beyond the Literature Circle roles</li> <li>• Encourage others to participate to encourage a balance of conversation</li> <li>• Actively listen to other members as they share</li> <li>• Ask members about their assignment, opinions, perspective etc.</li> <li>• Compliment and give feedback to other group members</li> <li>• Respect each other's opinions for example, "I hear what your saying, but I see it differently."</li> </ul>
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2	<p><b>Forming Groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A slow start in getting organized</li> <li>• Work on face to face interaction</li> <li>• You may be difficult to hear</li> </ul> <p><b>Participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You listen to other members, but you show little enthusiasm for the conversation</li> <li>• Your participation does not go beyond sharing your part of the assignment</li> </ul>

## **Lit Circles Role: Discussion Director**

**Your Job:** Make a list of three "big idea" questions for your group to discuss

**How:** Look for the "big" ideas, not small details

Think about your own feelings, concerns, opinions, thoughts

Select the questions that will help others share their reactions

Write the questions, using the format below, in pencil

Make sure each person gets a turn to express ideas

### **Sample Questions:**

How did you feel (angry, sad, thrilled,...) when you read the passage on page \_\_\_\_?

Did the situation on page \_\_\_\_\_ remind you of anything you have experienced?

Did anything surprise you?

Can you describe changing your mind as you continued to read?

What do you think is the most important idea or message?

What do you think will happen next?

<b><u>Title: Discussion Director</u></b>	Name Date Div.
Name of Your Group's Book: _____	
Author(s): _____	
Group Members: _____	
Chapter and Pages: _____	
<b>Questions:</b>	
1. _____ _____	
2. _____ _____	
3. _____ _____	



### **Lit Circles Role: Vocabulary Enricher**

**Your Job:** Make a list of five important words for your group

**How:** Look for words that are important for their meaning in the passage or that are unfamiliar, puzzling, funny, different, interesting, or used in an unusual way.

Write the page number, word, and definition, using the format below.  
Share these words with your group.

**For Discussion:** How does this word fit the story? How does it make you feel?  
What is the etymology (origin) of the word? What images does it evoke?  
Does the word carry any connotations?

<b><u>Title: Vocabulary Enricher</u></b>	Name Date Div.
Name of Your Group's Book: _____	
Author(s): _____	
Group Members: _____	
Chapter and Pages: _____	
1. Page ____ Word _____	
Definition: _____	
2. Page ____ Word _____	
Definition: _____	
3. Page ____ Word _____	
Definition: _____	
4. Page ____ Word _____	
Definition: _____	
5. Page ____ Word _____	
Definition: _____	

### **Lit Circles Role: Literary Luminary**

**Your Job:** Find two quotations or short passages that are especially powerful, funny, interesting, or important.

**How:** Find two powerful, funny, interesting, or important passages.

Write the page number and the reason you picked it, using the format below.

Plan for the discussion, using one of these methods:

- a. read the passage aloud, tell your reason, and ask for the group's ideas
- b. ask for a group volunteer to read the passage aloud and then share ideas about it
- c. ask each group member to read it silently and then ask for ideas to be shared

**For Discussion:** Do group members have different feelings about the passage? How are they the same or different?

<b><u>Title: Literary Luminary</u></b>	Name Date Div.
Name of Your Group's Book: _____	
Author(s): _____	
Group Members: _____	
Chapter or Pages: _____	
Quotation/Passage #1: page # _____	
Reason for Choice: _____ _____	
Plan for Discussion: _____ _____	
Quotation/Passage #2: page # _____	
Reason for Choice: _____ _____	
Plan for Discussion: _____ _____	

name: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

div. \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Lit Circles Role: Connector**

**Your Job:** Find two ideas in the book that connect with the real world around you and help others in your group to make connections too.

**How:** Think about an idea in the book that interests you. Then think about what you know about the idea from your own experience, the experiences of those you know, or information from other books, movies, television, the internet, etc.

Write the idea from the book and the way it connects to your life, using the format below.

Share with your group and ask for their ideas and connections.

**For Discussion:** Were group members struck by the same idea or were there different ideas? Did group members have similar or contrasting experiences or information?

<u>Title: Connector</u>	Name Date Div.
Name of Your Group's Book: _____	
Author(s): _____	
Group Members: _____	
Chapter or Pages: _____	
Idea #1: _____	
Your Experience: _____	
_____	
Information from another person, book, TV, movie, etc.:	
_____	
_____	
Idea #2: _____	
Your Experience: _____	
_____	
Information from another person, book, TV, movie, etc.:	
_____	
_____	

