

Name:

Mr. Frenzel

Summer Reading Cover Sheet: 7th Grade

Project 1: Reading Edgar Allan Poe

Step One: Read 3 short stories by Edgar Allan Poe: *The Cask of Amontillado*, *Hop-Frog*, and *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*. For each story, complete a story map. Stories can be found here: <http://poestories.com/stories.php>, but I recommend finding a print collection.

Step Two: Write a 1 and a half to two page paper (double spaced) comparing and contrasting two of the three stories that you've read.

Honors: Read two additional Edgar Allan Poe stories of your choosing. (DO NOT use *the Tell Tale Heart* as we will be reading that in class.)

Create some sort of visual presentation that represents at least one of these stories. This visual presentation may be a poster, a diorama, a PowerPoint or a video. It must be accompanied by a one page paper detailing why you have chosen to represent your story in this way. (For example: if you made a poster for *Masque of the Red Death*, why did you choose the images and colors that you used when making your poster. What parts of the story do these images represent?)

Project 2: Independent Reading

Step One: Choose a book of your choice to read. Before reading the book, complete part one of the "Thoughtful Independent Reader" handout. (The book cannot be: The Outsiders, My Brother Sam is Dead, or A Long Walk to Water)

Step Two: After reading the book complete the rest of the "Thoughtful Independent Reader" handout.

Step Three: Choose a character from the book that you've chosen. It does not have to be the main character. Decide on three characteristics that your chosen character has. Develop a well written essay that discusses how the character you have chosen shows these characteristics. The essay should include an introduction and a concluding statement. Each essay must include multiple quotes from the story to support your writing.

Step Four: On a standard sheet of computer paper (or a piece of oak tag cut to this size) create an alternative book cover for the book you have chosen to read. The book cover should include the title and author of the book that you've read, and it must not be a simple recreation of any other book covers the book that you have chosen has had. Extra credit will be awarded to the top three book covers.

Honors: Your essay must contain **FOUR** characteristics.

Project 3: Non-Fiction Research and Writing

Step One: Research one of the following Presidents. Use at least two good sources. Wikipedia IS NOT an acceptable source.

John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James K. Polk, Zachary Taylor, Millard Fillmore, James Buchanan, Abraham Lincoln
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Step Two: Write a 1 and a half to 2 page biography of your chosen president. Be sure to include your sources at the end of your paper.

Extra Credit: Create a Poster on a half sheet of oak tag for your chosen President. Include pictures and the most important information about them.

Name:

Date:

Grade:

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Thoughtful Independent Reader Guide

Part One: Before Reading

1. Do I prefer fiction or non-fiction? Why do I prefer one over the other?
2. What kind of stories do I like to read? Do I like specific genres (types of stories) like mysteries, comedies, etc.? Why am I drawn to these types of stories?
3. What kind of characters do I like? Why do I like these characters?
4. What are some specific stories I've read that I've enjoyed? Why did I like those stories?
5. What are some stories that I've read that I haven't enjoyed? Why did I not like those stories?
6. What book am I about to read? Who is it by?
7. How did I learn about this book?
8. Why am I choosing to read this book?
9. What am I hoping will happen in this book?

Part Two: After Reading

The Book at a Glance

1. Who was the main character in this book?
2. What was the major conflict in this book? How was it resolved?
3. What was the most important part of the book? Why?
4. Write a brief summary of this book.

Author's Purpose

1. Why do I think the author wrote this book?
2. What were some moods that the author created in this book? How did the author create these feelings?
3. How did the author create tension in this book?

Making Connections

1. What other stories have I read that are similar to this book? How are those stories similar to this book? How are they different?
2. How can I connect this book to my life? Have I experienced similar events? Have I known similar people? Is there a message from this book that I can apply to my life?

Opinion

1. Write a brief review. What parts of this book did I enjoy? Why did I enjoy these parts? What parts did I not enjoy? Why did I not like these parts? Would I recommend this book to someone else? Why or why not?
2. Change one moment in the book. What change do I make? How does this change affect the book as a whole?
3. **Extra Credit** Take the time to rewrite a scene in the book.