

FOURTH GRADE BOOK REPORT OUTLINE

Student Name

Date

Title of Book

Author

Publisher

Genre

I. **Setting and Time (At least 2 paragraphs)**

Describe **the time (period of history)** and **setting** (place) of the story. If the time in which the book takes place is not stated, make an educated guess from details you read. If the book is a fantasy, state that, and describe the time as past, present, future, or a fantasy world combining different times.

Setting describes the physical features of the place(s) in which the book happens. Include country, state, city or town, if known. If characters are on a journey, describe the different geographic areas through which they pass. Describe the home, whether its location is rural or urban, school, and any other descriptive details of the **place** in which the book is set.

II **Main Character (2 paragraphs)**

Choose the main character in the book. The main character is central to your conflict and main event.

In paragraph one, give a detailed **physical description** of the character, including age, size, features of face and hair, build, and any distinguishing characteristics of smile, walk, posture, etc.

In the second paragraph, select four important **character traits** the main character shows in the book. For each trait selected, include **two examples** of this personality trait from the book. Identify the ways the character changes or grows as a person as a result of the events in the story.

III The Conflict (at least 2 paragraphs)

Describe the most important problem the characters in the book must face. Some examples of universal conflicts in books include character against nature, character against another character, character against himself, and character against the unknown (magic, fate) Use at least three of the most important **specific examples** from your book to support your choice of conflict. (At least two paragraphs)

IV. The Main Event (2-4 paragraphs)

The main event describes the events in which the conflict you have described is resolved. If survival is the conflict, the events which describe how the characters deal with life-threatening events to achieve a final goal, would be the main event. If the conflict is character against himself, the main event would describe how your character changes in order to solve the conflict, and perhaps the price the character must pay to achieve this change. (At least two paragraphs)

V, The Conclusion (3 paragraphs)

Describe the **author's purpose in writing the book**. Some examples of purpose might be to entertain, to inform, to explain, or to persuade. The author's purpose is the reason for presenting a story in a certain way. (1 paragraph)

Describe the effects this book had on you. In what ways did the author entertain, inform, explain or persuade you? (1 paragraph)

Would you recommend this book to a classmate? Explain why you would **and** why you would not recommend the book, (its strengths and weaknesses) and your own conclusion. (1 paragraph)

FOURTH GRADE BOOK REPORT AN OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

All book report books must have a length of approximately 100 pages. **All books must be approved by me in advance. Books previously read are not suitable for book reports.**

Both rough and final copies of this year's book reports will be written in class. Using four different colored tabs **as you read** to mark information on **setting, main character, conflict and main event** will help you understand, summarize and enjoy the book you have chosen. You may bring any rough point-form notes you may have taken as you read your book to help organize your rough draft. Please remember that point form notes are **not** the same as a rough draft written in sentences on index cards. California history reports will be worked on at home and school, but may be published at home.

*****All written assignments, in all subjects whether handwritten or typed, must be double spaced.** Use pencil or erasable pen for rough draft writing and for final drafts, use erasable blue or black pen, or black ink, font size 12 – 14, and Arial or Times New Roman for computer generated writing. You must **spell check** all computer work.

Rough drafts of book reports will be written in class on:

Thursday, October 16th – Genre: historical fiction – Books will be assigned in class, written in class, then edited and published in class, followed by oral presentations. Simple costumes may be used for your oral presentation, which will begin October 27th.

Wednesday, November 19th – Genre biography/autobiography/non-fiction written and published in class with oral presentations in the first person to follow. Simple costumes are recommended. .

Wednesday, January 28th – California Research Report due, Published, with poster board, powerpoint, CD news documentary, or other display to be presented through the week.

Thursday, February 26th – Genre – Fantasy fiction, written and published in class with project

Wednesday, May 6th – Oral History Research Presentation– Grandparent or special friend interview presentation. May be audio taped, video-taped, or presented orally. Any photographs, special clothing or artifacts will enhance your presentation. The interview outline form will be provided before Thanksgiving, so that a Grandparent may be interviewed by phone, or video taped if they are in town.

Dates to be scheduled:

Poetry Memorization and Presentation – Mr. Cann and Mrs. Whittaker

