Literature Circles - Directions

Individual Homework Assignments:

You are each responsible for completing seven daily homework assignments related to your novel. These assignments will help you work through the novel, give you a foundation for group discussion, and provide proof of your effort. Assignments will be collected on days 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9, and are worth 20 points apiece. You must select seven different homework assignments from the Homework Options List. The top of your paper for each homework assignment should include **ALL** of the following information:

Your Name_____ Date _____ Period _____
Title of Novel _____ Assignment Number _____
Name of Task _____ Page Numbers Covered _____

Daily Group Discussions:

A portion of each day will be set aside for your group to discuss the assigned reading. During this time, you will share homework assignments, questions about the reading, ideas that sparked interest, connections that you found, and other pertinent topics.

Each day, two group members will assume the role of Group Leader. One member will be the **Discussion Director**, and another member will choose a role from the remaining options listed below (see Mr. Farris for the forms and instructions for each role):

- **Discussion Director** (develop a list of discussion questions)
- **Summarizer** (prepare a brief summary of today's reading)
- **Investigator** (research background information on topics related to your book)
- **Illustrator** (draw some kind of picture related to the reading)
- **Connector** (find connections between the book and the world outside)
- **Travel Tracer** (track carefully where the action takes place)
- **Vocabulary Enricher** (find words that are puzzling or unfamiliar)
- **Predictor** (predict what you think will happen next in this story)

Each group must decide who will have a Group Leader role for the following day's discussion. Members should take turns.

In addition to the daily roles and individual homework assignments, each group is responsible for completing and submitting one Group Log Sheet per day (worth 10 points per group member).

Group Projects:

On the three days that individual homework is not assigned, groups will submit a Group Project, which will be presented on Days 3, 6, and 10 (see "Group Project Options"). These projects should address and highlight issues that are specific and unique to your novel. Group Projects are worth 50 points per group member.

Group Novel Portfolios

Every assignment related to this project must be saved, collected, and presented as part of a well-organized Group Novel Portfolio. The Group Novel Portfolio is due by Day 11. It is worth 50 points per group member and should include:

- All individual homework assignments
- All group homework assignments
- All group log sheets
- All completed Group Leader role sheets
- Any other notes or items related to the novel

The Group Novel Portfolios should be clearly organized, and may be presented as a binder, a file, a scrapbook, a PowerPoint presentation, or any other method that adequately and appropriately represents the complete works of your group.