

Literature Circles in Action: Role Sheet

Directions: Literature circles are small student-led group discussions in which each group member has a specific role and has prepared for the discussion according to that role. Each member is responsible for reading the assigned chapter(s), identify themes, make connections, and create a reading log entry. Each member must also complete the preparation for his/her assigned role (see below).

Discussion Direction: Your job is write down at least five questions for discussion. These questions should be open-ended (not yes/no questions) and designed to spark interesting discussion. Questions that are controversial or require students to think about they would do in the situation relates to the story are good conversations starters. During the discussion, your job is to encourage all group members to participate by involving them in the discussion, to ask follow-up questions when conversation lags, and to be sure that every participant has a chance to present his or her preparation.

Connection Maker: Your job is to find at least four connections (text-to-text, text-to-self, text to world). These connections might relate to current events, personal experiences, movies or other books, or anything else that relates to the story in some way.

Summarizer: Your job is to write a summary covering all the important events from the assigned reading and explain why these events were significant. How did it change the characters? How did the author develop theme?

Literary Luminary: Your job is to search for examples of literary devices (irony, metaphor, indirect/direct characterization, simile, foreshadow, etc.) You must write down each example and use MLA format to cite your work.

Passage Picker: Your job is to select and reread important passages or descriptive imagery sections to the group and discusses author's style. You are to guide the discussion about the passage and as a group come to a consensus as to what the significance of the passage is.