

Choice Board Activity

Unit/Theme: Author Mini Research Project

Numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be turned in as one research paper. You will share this with me on Google. You must choose 2 other boxes to complete. You will have class time to work on this. All projects due before or on May 25.

1 Write a reading response (provided by Mrs. D.) on a book you have read by your chosen author.	2 THIS IS A MUST! Write a paragraph about the early life of your author (birth to college/early adulthood). Include any early experiences that may have led him/her to become an author. Save to Google docs.	3 THIS IS A MUST! Write a paragraph about your author's writing career. Include any formal education the author may have. Include book titles of several books (if they have written more than one book). Have their books won awards? First book title? Favorite books of author/you. Save to Google docs.
4 THIS IS A MUST! Write a paragraph about the author's adult life (married/children/pets/hobbies). If author is alive, where does he/she live? If author is deceased, when did he/she die? Save to Google docs.	5 THIS BOX IS A MUST! Cite your sources that you used for research using easybib.net or citationmachine.net (MLA format). Save to Google docs.	6 If you have read at least two or more books by this author write a compare and contrast paragraph. You may use a Venn Diagram but you must also write a paragraph about the two (or more books). You can use ideas of how to do this paragraph from handout.
7 Create a way to share what you learned about your author with the class. Look at the list from Mrs. D.	8 Design a new cover for the book. It may not look like the original color <i>book</i> .	9 Write a list of children's book awards (at least 5). Then briefly describe the criteria for the award. These can include: Newberry, Caldecott, Bluebonnet, etc.

Possible Authors to Research

1. J.K. Rowling
2. Suzanne Collins
3. Jeff Kinney
4. Jeff Smith
5. C.S. Lewis
6. Rick Riordan
7. Beverly Cleary
8. Tedd Arnold
9. Avi
10. Betsy ~~Bayers~~ *Byers*
11. Jan and Stan Berenstain
12. Judy Blume
13. Jan Brett
14. Norman Bridwell *well*
15. Marc Brown
16. Margaret Wise Brown
17. Eric Carle
18. Leo and Diane Dillon
19. Mem Fox
20. Kevin Henkes
21. Grossnickle Hines
22. Joan Holub
23. Crockett Johnson
24. Ezra Jack Keats
25. Madeline L'Engle
26. Brian Jacques
27. Susan Meddaugh
28. Robert N. Munsch
29. Dav ~~id~~ Pikey *Polacco*
30. Patricia Polacco
31. Robert Quackenbush
32. Faith Ringgold
33. Lemony Snicket
34. R.L. Stein
35. E.B White

36. Roald Dahl
37. Shel Silverstein
38. Lois Lowry
39. Louis Sachar
40. Kate Dicamillo
41. Katharine Peterson
42. Katherine Applegate
43. Scott O'Dell
44. Gary Paulsen
45. Andrew Clements
46. Natalie Babbitt
47. Brandon Mull
48. Rachel Renee Russell
49. Christopher Paolini
50. Gordan Korman
51. Laura Ingalls Wilder
52. Lincoln Pierce
53. Gertrude Chqndler Warner
54. Jerry Spinelli *li*
55. Tommy dePaola
56. Jean Craighead George
57. Dan Gutman
58. Mary Pope Osborne
59. James Dashner
60. Ingrid Law
61. Margaret Peterson Haddix
62. J.R.R Tolkien
63. Christopher Paul Curtis
64. Karen Hesse
65. Jane O'Connor
66. William Steig
67. Brian Selznick
68. Jeanne DuPrau
69. John Flanagan
70. Rebecca Stead

You are not limited to this list. There are tons of authors out there. This list may give you some ideas if you are stuck on who to study.



Helpful websites for Author Mini Research Paper

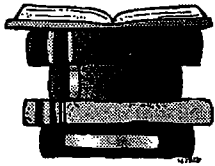
Readingrockets.org - This has videos and information on authors, as well as info on children's book awards.

Easybib.com - A user friendly site for citing your sources

<http://gws.ala.org/category/literature-amp-languages/authors-illustrators> - Information about many authors and illustrators.

http://childrenspicturebooks.info/picture_book_author_sites.htm Information about many authors and illustrators.

*Check out the publisher's website for author information. For example, <https://www.harpercollins.com/childrens> has several children's authors. Look up your author by the publisher or many authors have their own websites (like Jerry Spinelli).



Reading Responses

You will need to have read ^{one} ~~two~~ books by your author in order to research them. For each book you will need complete a reading response. ~~After your two reading responses have been approved, you may move onto the next part of your project.~~

You may choose from the following questions for your reading responses. Answer the questions on the following pages.

- Box 1
1. What lessons did the characters learn in the book?
 2. What point of view is the story told from? How does the point of view influence how the story is told?
 3. What is the theme of the book?
 4. Compare and contrast two events in one of your books and explain how it affected how the story was told.
 5. Compare and contrast two settings in one of your books and explain how it affected how the story unfolded.
 6. Explain how the author used their chapters to provide the overall structure of the text?
 7. Compare and contrast the themes of the two books you read by your author.
 8. Compare and contrast the main characters in your two books and how they responded to the challenges they faced.
- Box 6

Now that you have finished your research paper, it is time for you to decide how you will present that information to your classmates and teacher.

Here is a list of possible projects you can complete for your final author study project:

- Create a PowerPoint about your author and their books.
- Create a poster board about your author and their books.
- Create a diagram about your author and one of their books.
- Create a PowerPoint, poster board, or diagram comparing and contrasting two different books written by your author.
- Create a sculpture of a character(s) from one of your author's books.
- Create a diary from the perspective of a character from one of the books your author has written.
- Create life size figures of a character(s) from one of the books your author has written.
- Create a variety of sketches with at least 10 different scenes from your book.
- Create an audio-recording of a book or a chapter from one of the books your author has written.
- Construct a diorama from a scene from the book.
- Create a comic book or graphic novel of a book that your author has written.
- Design a book jacket for a book that your author has written.
- Create a collage about a book(s) your author has written.
- Make a poster to advertise one of the books your author has written.
- Write the first chapter to the sequel of one of the books your author has written.
- Create a webpage or blog about your author and their books.
- Make a game board that uses the setting, characters, and plot from one of your author's books.
- Make a mobile using a coat hanger with elements from one of your authors' books.
- Using a cardboard box, make a miniature stage setting of a scene from one of your author's books.
- Create a scrapbook about your author and/or their books.
- Anything else you can think of as long as you get it approved by your teacher.

Author Study Project Rubric

Above Standard Level 4	At Standard Level 3	Approaching Standard Level 2	Below Standard Level 1
<p>Information is presented in a way that is easy to read and understand.</p> <p>Includes a component that goes above grade level work.</p>	<p>Information is presented in a way that is easy to read and understand.</p>	<p>Information is mostly presented in a way that is easy to read and understand.</p>	<p>Information is presented in a way that makes it difficult to read and difficult to understand.</p>
<p>Information is organized neatly and in a logical and structured way for the assigned task.</p> <p>Pictures and diagrams enhance the project.</p>	<p>Information is organized neatly and in a logical and structured way for the assigned task.</p> <p>Relevant pictures and diagrams used in the project.</p>	<p>Information is mostly organized neatly and in a logical and structured way for the assigned task.</p> <p>Some relevant pictures and diagrams used in the project.</p>	<p>Information not organized neatly in a logical and structured way for the assigned task.</p> <p>Little or no relevant pictures and diagrams used in the project.</p>
<p>Correctly used grade-level appropriate grammar, mechanics, conventions and spelling with no errors.</p>	<p>Correctly used grade-level appropriate grammar, mechanics, conventions and spelling with few errors.</p>	<p>Correctly used grade-level appropriate grammar, mechanics, conventions and spelling with some errors.</p>	<p>Does not use grade-level appropriate grammar, mechanics, conventions and spelling.</p>
<p>The information shared is useful, includes a bibliography, and all information is cited.</p> <p>Information comes from a variety of sources.</p>	<p>The information shared is useful, includes a bibliography, and all information is cited.</p>	<p>The information shared is mostly useful, included a mostly complete bibliography and most information is cited.</p>	<p>The information shared isn't useful or doesn't include a bibliography and little or no information is cited..</p>