

5th Grade Book Report Format

Introduction (2-3 sentences, including a “topic” sentence)

Include:

- The title (underlined) and author of the book
- Why you chose the book (if this applies) or how it fits into our history program this year (if this applies).
- What kind of story is it?
 - o **Fiction** (made up): Fantasy, Science fiction, Realistic fiction, Historical fiction, Mystery, or Traditional Literature (folktale, myth, fable, fairytale)?
 - o **Non-Fiction** (true) Narrative nonfiction, Biography, Expository nonfiction, or Informational?

Body (1-2 paragraphs supporting topic and including the following):

In this section you want to describe the main parts of a story: theme, setting, characters, and plot (not necessarily in that order - paragraph 1). Then you give your opinions about the book (paragraph 2).

The Theme is the main idea of the story. Some examples might be the importance of friendship/hope/honesty/integrity/etc. or how to be courageous in a difficult situation. Tell what you think the theme is and how you know (example from the book).

The Setting is the time and place of the story. Is it set a long time ago or now? Does it take place in another country or in an imaginary place? How much time passes in the story – a day? a year? A lifetime?

The Characters are who the story is about. The main character is called the protagonist. Who are the other important characters? Do they help or hinder the protagonist?

The Plot is what happens. You want to briefly tell what the story is about. What is the main event or conflict? What things lead up to it? What happens as a result? How does the story end?

Be careful not to re-tell the whole story in detail – you want room in your report to write about other things; instead, just say enough about it to demonstrate you read/understand the book, and so the rest of your report will make sense. One paragraph should be about right!

Once you have summarized the book, you can **tell what you think about it!** Select 2-3 questions from below to answer with examples/supporting reasons from the book:

- Do you like the story? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the book? Why?
- How did the story make you feel? Did you feel different things at different points in the story?
- Would you recommend it to friends?
- Would you read other books by this author?
- What new things did you learn from this book?

Conclusion (2 sentences)

This is just a sentence or two to sum up your report. Give your overall opinion of the book and the most important thing you want other people to know about it.

****You will need a VISUAL AIDE to add to your report - see additional handout for details!**