**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Paper Bag Book Report**

Choose a well written and thoughtful novel to read independently that is at your reading level. A suggestion is to search for an award winning novel such as Newberry, Red Cedar, or Surrey Book of the Year. To test if a novel is at your reading level, try using the five finger test. Place the palm of your hand down on an open page in your book. Next, find the five words that are at the tip of each of your fingers. If you can read and understand at least 4 of the words, then you have a found a novel that is not too difficult for you. You also need to be sure that the novel is not too easy or too short. You will read the novel each day (and record in your reading log). Once you have finished the novel, you will prepare a project to share with the class about your novel. The project involves finding a bag such as a brown paper lunch bag to decorate and to fill with symbolic objects. You could also re-use another type of shopping bag that you have around the house.

A breakdown of the tasks is below:

**Front Panel**

On the front panel of your bag or on an appropriate size piece of paper, create an original title page for your novel that is different from the existing title page. Clearly write the **title** and the **author** of the novel. Your title page illustration should clearly represent the plot &/or the theme of the novel. Make sure it is fully coloured and eye catching!

Cut out your title page, mount on construction paper (if you have any) and glue it to the front panel of your paper bag.

**Back Panel**

On the back panel, write a short summary that might entice someone to read this novel. Your write-up should be a brief summary of the novel, as well as an introduction to the setting and the main character(s). Give enough details so that a potential reader would know what the novel is about, but not so much so that you give away the story. This must be original. Please don’t copy out the summary that is already on the back or inside cover of your novel.

Your paragraph must be typed (and mounted on construction paper if you have any). Be sure to format the margins of your write-up so that it fits on the back of the paper bag.

**Bag Fillers**

Inside your bag, place 8 items that represent significant events, aspects of the characters’ personalities, and themes from the novel. Include 2 objects that you can gather or find. Include 6 objects that you make by hand. Try to think of a variety of materials that you can use. This is where you can get creative. Do you have extra fabric laying around the house? wood scraps? Use “deep thinking” to select/create objects that are symbolic of the themes and other inferential ideas.

For example, if you were reading I Am Malala, you might chose to include the following items:

* A **pencil** to represent the importance of education to Malala or to represent the magic pencil and the power of your words
* A **microphone** to represent the public speaking that Malala has done in order to increase awareness around the world about the importance of women’s right to education
* A **chain link** to represent the strong bond between Malala and her father
* A **stethoscope** to represent the excellent medical attention that Malala received in England
* A **lion stuffie** to represent the bravery and courage that Malala showed throughout the novel

After you have selected your 8 items, **explain** each of your choices by completing a table with the name and brief description of the meaning of each item and its significance to the story.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Object:** | **What the object represents:** |
| **1.** |  |
| **2.** |  |
| **3.** |  |
| **4.** |  |
| **5.** |  |
| **6.** |  |
| **7.** |  |
| **8.** |  |