

9th Grade Gifted Literature Summer Reading Assignment

Grovetown High School

Mrs. Elise Crow

The Rocket Boys, A Memoir by Homer Hickam

Available at public libraries, local bookstores, or Amazon.com

(It is also published under the name October Sky, the name of the movie based on the book. The books are the same; they just have different titles.)

Here's an interesting website to check out: <http://www.homerhickam.com/>

While you read the novel, create a journal. You do not need to write a journal entry for each chapter. We will group the chapters into five sections, and for each section, create a journal entry. The sections will be:

1. Chapters 1-5
2. Chapters 6-10
3. Chapters 11-15
4. Chapters 15-20
5. Chapters 21-26

For each journal entry, complete the following:

1. A title for that section of the book.
2. Write a summary of the chapters. This should be at least two paragraphs in length.
3. Reflection: In a paragraph, respond to what is happening in the novel. Include your impressions and response to of characters, events, etc.
4. Choose a different character for each journal entry and...
 - a. Name the character.
 - b. Choose a quote that you think best represents the character and explain why.
 - c. In a paragraph, describe his/her best and worst qualities.
 - d. In a paragraph describe the character's role in the story.
4. For each section, note at least two examples of figurative language (simile, metaphor, allusion, alliteration, etc.) Give the example and the term.

The journal should represent what you are learning from the novel. You will be graded on writing, presentation (appearance, neatness, legibility, etc), and creativity. You should label each section of the journal, and you may type or hand write your journal entries. Put them all together in a book with a creative cover to turn in on the first day of school.

Journal Entry	1	2	3	4	5
Section Titles: 5 points					
Summaries: 20 points					
Reflection: 10 points					
Character Quotes: 10 points					
Character's Best/Worst Qualities: 15 points					
Character's Role: 15 points					
Figurative Language: 10 points					
Presentation: 15 points					