

# BOOK TALK ASSIGNMENT AND RUBRIC

One of the best ways to find a new book to read is by word of mouth. Sometimes we get excited about reading if a friend tells us about a book that they really liked.

Your job is to choose a book that you enjoyed reading. Deliver a 3-5 minute Book Talk to the class so that they can hear why you enjoyed this book. Look at the list below to give you some ideas about the kind of details to include in your book talk. Read the BookTalk Rubric on the next page so that you will know the grading procedure.

## Plot (The action of the story)

- the story includes a number (2, 3, 4 . . .) of suspenseful and surprising events
- the story includes some / many predictable events
- certain parts of the story are confusing / hard to believe
- the climax (most important event) changes the story in an interesting way . . . in a believable way . . . in an unbelievable way . . .
- there are a number (2, 3, 4 . . .) of important events which lead to the ending
- the ending is surprising . . . predictable . . . unbelievable . . .

## Characters (The people . . . and sometimes animals . . . in the story)

- the main character changes from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ by the end
- certain forces or circumstances make the character(s) act the way they do
- a certain character acts believably/ unbelievably when . . .
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the main character's outstanding personality trait
- the main character does the right thing when . . .
- I can identify with the main character when . . .

## Setting (The time, place and circumstances of the story)

- the setting helps make the story exciting
- the setting has an important effect on the main character

- the setting increased my knowledge of a certain time period in history by . . .
- the setting creates a new and exciting world
- the setting in this book offers nothing new and exciting
- the setting could have played a more important role in this story

Theme (The author's statement/message about life)

- ambition . . . courage . . . greed . . . happiness . . . jealousy . . . is the theme
- the moral "Don't judge a book by its cover", "Haste makes waste", "Hard work pays off", is developed in this book
- this book showed me what it is like to be . . .

Genre: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Books by this Author:

---

Rehearsal/Practice at home

Parent Signature: _____	Yes	No			
Has a copy of the book in hand	4	0			
Provides an intro. that attracts audience attention	4	3	2	1	0
Maintains eye contact with the audience	4	3	2	1	0
Demonstrates enthusiasm for the book	4	3	2	1	0
Reads aloud from an interesting passage	4	3	2	1	0
Tells enough to be interesting without giving book away	4	3	2	1	0
Includes a conclusion that makes us want to read the book	4	3	2	1	0
Stays within the time limits (3-5 mins.)		4	0		
Project completed is suited to the novel at hand	4	0			
Project is presented to the class for discussion	4	0			

Comments:

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----