**Book Projects**

**What is a “Book Project?”: A book project is a unique creation that allows you to show off both what you learned from the book and your creative skills. Book projects are open-ended, meaning that there is no single type of “book project” that should be handed in. Instead, each book project should feature unique aspects of what you are reading and showcase your talents. The steps to creating a book project are…**

1. READ A GOOD BOOK! This book can be fiction or non-fiction, a book of poetry, or a graphic novel. It must be at least 100 pages long and you should have NEVER read it before. You will be completing four book projects over the course of the year. Two of the books must be nonfiction and two can be books of your choice. You may read them in any order.
2. Meet with Mrs. Yoshida for reading conferences. During these conferences, you will share your thoughts about the book you are reading, discuss plot details, characterization, and other inspiring or interesting facts from the story. You MUST keep up with your reading conference sheets, as they are part of the book project final grade!
3. Meet with Mrs. Yoshida at least two weeks before the due date of the book project to discuss plans and ideas for the project. You will discuss ideas for the project, discuss what materials and how much time you will need and receive approval from both Mrs. Yoshida *AND* your parents before beginning the project!
4. Create your book project! You should utilize your unique skills to build, draw, write, map, bake, or create a project that features your interests and what you found inspiring about the book you have read.
5. **Explain yourself! Each physical project must be accompanied by a ½ page TYPED explanation of the project. Include WHAT I made, WHY I made it, HOW it relates to the story, and also lists my name, the title of my book, and the author of the book. Explanations count for a large portion of your project grade. Poems, articles, letters, summaries, etc… must be equivalent to a 1 ½ - 2 page response! Both quality and quantity are factors in your score!**

**Book Project Ideas**

**You are NOT limited to the following options. You may have a creative idea that you want to attempt! (Make sure you check with me before doing so.)**

1. Compose an original song, newspaper article, brochure, or poem that either tells the story of a character, the book as a whole, or is obviously surrounding the plot of the novel.
2. Create a children’s version of your novel. This book should capture the main ideas, mood and tone of the original novel through simple language and artwork.
3. Create a character map, cube, or essay showing the inner and outer qualities and internal and external conflicts of a character, setting, time period, etc.
4. Love the setting of your novel? Re-create an important place in the novel by building a “set” for your novel OR creating a colorful map of important places. The map or set-building can be done by hand OR on the computer. Recreate a scene in a shoebox diorama.
5. Make a video! Some ideas: create a news broadcast announcing the arrest of your novel’s main character; create a filmed musical presentation that reflects some aspect of your novel.
6. Create a set of five or more “character trading cards” for the main characters in the novel. You can use <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/trading_cards/> as a template OR create your own.
7. Love history? Research the history of your novel (society during that time period, an important event that happens in the text, etc) and present your findings to the class in the form of a 1-page paper, a collage, a poster, or a Powerpoint.
8. Create a “soundtrack” for your novel – 10 songs that you think relate to the theme of the novel or the feelings/qualities of a particular character. Make a CD with each of these songs, along with a brief “track list,” listing the songs and describing in 4+ sentences WHY you chose each song for your CD.
9. Determine which job your favorite character would be most suited for in the real world. Then create a realistic resume and cover letter that your character could submit to an employer in hopes of being hired. Occupations can be either realistic or fiction a long as they are well defined and defended in an appropriate cover letter.
10. Create a puzzle or game (or re-create a “classic” game like Monopoly or Chess) that features the characters, setting, and conflict of your novel.
11. Write a letter to the author of the text, expressing your opinions or asking questions about the book. If you choose to do this once you have finished the book you may polish your letter and find an appropriate address for the author. It will be interesting to see what kind of responses we may receive!
12. Create your own style of response to what you’re reading. See Mrs. **Y**oshida with your ideas!