

June, 2010

Dear Parents,

As a part of the Summer Reading Packet, the fifth grade is reading the award-winning novel, *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson. It is a beautiful story that focuses on friendship. Towards the end of the novel, one of the main characters dies unexpectedly. This is a very emotional part of the novel. I still get teary when I read it, but outstanding literature has the ability to bring forth strong emotions! You may want to read the novel before your child reads it; this may help you be better prepared for when your child comes to that part of the book. You may also want to read that section aloud with your child; that way, you are available to really discuss what happened and how everyone in the story deals with the death. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via the office during the summer.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mann

June, 2010

Dear Students,

It is finally here...Summer Vacation!! You can just picture what your summer break will include...beaches...the pool...Six Flags...camping...and your Summer Reading Assignment ☺. I have put together an assignment that I hope you will find enjoyable.

Everyone is **required** to read *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson. In this packet, you will find a list of vocabulary words that may be unfamiliar to you. You are **not required** to define them; you may want to keep a log of the definitions as you come to the words in the story. You will also find directions for creating your own fantasy world! This project has several different components; you may want to follow the suggested timeline for completing your fantasy world. The project is worth 25 points.

We will conduct book discussion groups upon our return to school. We will also complete a follow-up activity to review the comprehension of the novel. Lastly, there will be a quiz on the novel at some point during the second or third week of school. I hope everyone enjoys this novel as much as I do!

I am sure that many of you will read other novels beyond the required novel. Keep a log of the books that you read on an index card. Have your mom or dad sign the card and bring it in on the first day of school.

I look forward to seeing you at the beginning of the school year!
Have a fun, safe summer!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mann

Your Fantasy World

Would you like to create your own secret, magical, fantasy world such as Terabithia? For this activity, you will! You will be making a booklet of your world that includes the items on the list below. You may use any kind of paper that you would like to use (printer paper, manila paper, construction paper, etc.); however, please make sure the **size is 8 and a half by 11**. The booklet needs to be completed, assembled in the same order as listed below, and ready to turn in on the **first day of school**.

- Design a booklet cover with the name of your world done as neatly and imaginatively as you can; make it eye-catching! Include your name on the cover.
- Make a title page which explains in one well-written paragraph the reasons your fantasy world was created. The paragraph should be a **minimum of five sentences**. It can be written in pen and cursive or typed. On this page, also include an illustration of a portion of your world.
- Draw a detailed map of your world. Include your entrance and exit, as well as things such as land features, where you sit most often, inspirational places, places of interest, and any other areas you would like to include.
- Introduce the inhabitants of your world, real and imaginary. You need to have a minimum of five characters, with a written description of each. Your description should include the character's physical attributes as well as what the character's position is in the world. **Two to three sentences** should be sufficient. This may be written in pen and cursive or typed.
- Make a list of at least five rules that must be followed by anyone who is in your kingdom. These may be written in pen and cursive or typed.
- Write a journal entry for one day in your special world. Include the date and the events that occurred on that particular day. The entry should be a **minimum of five sentences**, written in pen and cursive or typed.
- Draw your favorite place in this world with which to end your booklet.

Below is a suggested timeline for completing your summer assignment to help keep you on track. As you complete each part, you should check it off to help you stay on track. Be creative and have fun!

Suggested timeline:

- Have a copy of the novel by: **June 15th**
- Finish reading the novel by: **July 23rd**
- Complete the booklet cover and title page by: **July 31st**
- Complete the map and inhabitants by: **August 7th**
- Complete the rules and journal entry by: **August 14th**
- Complete the drawing of your favorite place and assemble the completed project by: **August 21st**

RubiStar Rubric Made Using:
RubiStar (<http://rubistar.4teachers.org>)

6+1 Trait Writing Model : Fantasy World: Bridge to Terabithia

Teacher Name: **Mrs. Mann**

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Adding Personality (Voice)	The writer seems to be writing from knowledge or experience. The author has taken the ideas and made them "his own."	The writer seems to be drawing on knowledge or experience, but there is some lack of ownership of the topic.	The writer relates some of his own knowledge or experience, but it adds nothing to the discussion of the topic.	The writer has not tried to transform the information in a personal way. The ideas and the way they are expressed seem to belong to someone else.
Grammar & Spelling (Conventions)	Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content.
Word Choice	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, and the choice and placement of the words seems accurate, natural and not forced.	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, but occasionally the words are used inaccurately or seem overdone.	Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, punch or flair.	Writer uses a limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest. Jargon or cliches may be present and detract from the meaning.
Sentence Structure (Sentence Fluency)	All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure.	Most sentences are well-constructed with varied structure.	Most sentences are well-constructed but have a similar structure.	Sentences lack structure and appear incomplete or rambling.
Capitalization & Punctuation (Conventions)	Writer makes no errors in capitalization or punctuation, so the paper is exceptionally easy to read.	Writer makes 1 or 2 errors in capitalization or punctuation, but the paper is still easy to read.	Writer makes a few errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that catch the reader's attention and interrupt the flow.	Writer makes several errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that catch the reader's attention and greatly interrupt the flow.
Neatness: Drawings/Maps	Drawings/Maps are neatly done, colored, and labeled. It is evident what is being visually described.	Drawings/Maps are neat. The labels are mostly clear.	Drawings/Maps are complete. The student could have been a little neater when creating these items.	Drawings/Maps are not carefully completed. It is difficult to determine what is being described.