

LITERATURE CIRCLE EXTENSION PROJECT
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EDLA-615 F01, FTU1/FTU2

LITERATURE CIRCLE RESPONSE PROJECT
SELF-EVALUATION



My understanding and appreciation of Touching Spirit Bear, by Ben Mikaelson, was greatly enhanced through this extension project. It provided me with countless opportunities to revisit the story and dig deeper as I thoughtfully sought and selected passages to achieve my goal.

My quest was to create a visually-engaging PowerPoint version of the story, its characters, events and themes through authentic imagery and carefully chosen narrative. Choosing to organize the project in ABC format was ambitious, and at times, challenging (oh, that letter x!). While the ABC format certainly ensures a comprehensive overview of the literary work, I believe it is well suited for a group project with several students creating the slides collaboratively. Ideally, I would want students to record their quoted passages into the presentation as well. Students love the opportunity to speak and personalize their work. This would surely encourage rehearsing for the roles, further enriching literacy and communication skills.

As arduous as this endeavor may have been at times, I truly appreciate the opportunity this extension project afforded me to follow my own path. I found that as I was exploring an idea or event, another element would pop up at me and take me down another learning path making this a very unique and malleable experience. It provided a much more meaningful experience for me than if I had simply followed a teacher-designed or teacher-controlled plan as a culminating activity.

Please observe the PowerPoint slide design choice, which I feel evokes feelings of turbulence and disorder, symbolizing Cole's pain, feelings of rejection, confusion and loneliness. The sharp strokes and grey-blue hues are full of emotion and are complex, like the literary piece itself. It is much like an ocean storm, paradoxically offering a sense of hope . . . for there is always a calm after a storm. The circular effects reinforce the themes of circles that define this book.

It is my ardent hope that this presentation not only captures and effectively conveys to you the essence of the literary work, but further stimulates and affirms deep connections for you as well. I feel that I have created and presented an exemplary

extension project that effectively summarizes, interprets and evaluates the literary piece. For those of you who have not read the story, hopefully the extension project will inspire you to do so. Enjoy!

LITERATURE CIRCLE RESPONSE PROJECT RUBRIC

Novice 1	Apprentice 2	Practitioner 3	Expert 4	Score
Project does not convey meaning of book	Project partially communicates meaning book	Project adequately communicates meaning of book	Project clearly communicates meaning of book	4
No organization evident	Weak organization	Generally organized	Well organized	4
Lacks appeal	Some visual appeal	Visually appealing to audience	Visually creative and artistic	4
Little attention to details	Slight attention to details	Strong attention to details	Thorough attention to details	4
Minimal response from audience	May or may not draw audience to book	Project somewhat attracts audience to book	Convincingly draws audience to book	4

Total: 20/20

Rubric from:
Hill, B.C., Schlick Noe, K.L., & Johnson, N.J. Literature Circles Resource Guide
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