

English 8 – S.S.R. Book Talk

A Book Talk is a chance for you to talk about the books you have been reading for SSR (duh).

For your presentation date, you will:

- Have your selected reading completed
- Have a poster or other suitable visual completed with the criteria listed below
- Have prepared a brief presentation outlining the contents of your visual

Poster / Visual Content

Your reading selection can be fiction or non-fiction, so here is what we need:

Option 1: Fiction	Option 2: Non-Fiction
A complete description of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Important Characters (Who are they? What are they like? Strengths? Weaknesses?)- The main problem or struggle the characters face- Setting (Where and when the story takes place)	One paragraph of at least 11 sentences explaining what your reading is about.

Learning Extension for both FICTION and NON-FICTION:

One paragraph explaining THREE interesting facts you have researched from another reading source that is connected somehow to your original reading. These facts will be presented in FULL sentences and will include a CITATION.

Scoring well on this portion will depend on how well you discuss your facts.

The visual will include the title and author of the book and at least one visual. I will be looking for care, attention, and creativity in presentation, and evidence of proofreading in your text.

Sample of the **Learning Extension**

While reading In the Heart of the Sea, I learned many interesting facts. One thing I researched was that Nantucket, Massachusetts, was once the whaling center of the world. Ships began whaling out of this small island community on the east coast of America in the early 18th century, and that community was the most profitable whaling industry for more than one hundred and fifty years. Ships travelled as far as the middle of the Pacific Ocean to hunt and process whales. Something else I wanted to learn more about from this book were other examples of sailors being lost at sea and surviving. The Guinness Book of World Records says that Japanese captain Oguri Jukichi survived four hundred and eighty four days at sea after his ship was damaged in the Pacific. His ship was carrying soy beans, which is probably why he ended up living. However, in the book I read, some people had to eat dead crewmates. I found this horrifying and fascinating, so for my third fact, I wanted to research cannibalism. I found out that eating human flesh is actually ok, but eating human brains can be fatal. Human brains and spinal fluid can contain prions, misshapen proteins in the body that cause normal, healthy proteins to become misshapen as well. This is believed to be the cause of Kuru disease, which afflicted tribes in Papua New Guinea, where local customs had people eat the brains of dead family members as a way to preserve their spirits. Kuru disease affects a patient mentally and physically, and is always fatal.

Citation

"Into the Deep: American Whaling and the World"

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/timeline-whaling/>

"Longest Time Adrift at Sea"

<http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/longest-time-adrift-at-sea>

Cannibalism: Is It Safe To Eat People? (VIDEO, PHOTOS)

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/05/08/cannibalism_n_1501513.html