

## Educator Information and Directions

*Content Warning: This PDF mentions death and dying.*

### Student Objectives

1. Brainstorm, create, and evaluate an original project based on your independent novel

### DAY 1

- Print the PDF.
- Watch the video.
- Select an option for the book review project and complete the brainstorming activity.
- Online Practice: Earn one medal.

### DAYS 2-4

- Review the example for your chosen project and the recommended schedule.
- Work on the chosen book review project.
- Online Practice: Earn one medal.

### DAY 5

- Finalize the chosen book review project.
- Complete the checklist and self-assessment rubric.
- Complete the online assessment.

### Suggested Reward

Use your account to reward 100 Gold/\$coops for each worksheet completed in this packet.

## Extension Activities

**Draw It Out:** Pick three big moments from your book and draw them. Show your drawings to a friend or trusted adult and explain what you drew.

**Video Voices:** Record a short review talking about your favorite parts of the book, what surprised you, and what you would change. You can record this on a phone or computer.

**Multiple Missions:** Is your student ready for an additional challenge? Assign them more than one mission to complete on their choice boards to see their creativity shine!



Complete While Watching Video



Example



Student Practice



Write It Out!

# Day 1

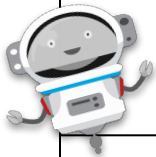
## Book Review Choice Board



**DIRECTIONS:** Draw a star ☆ by the option you would like to select for your final book review project.

### Alternate Ending Asteroid Belt

Write an alternative ending for your book. It must include the main characters and dialogue, and it must make sense with the story. Try to write like the author did!



### Lunar Letter Station

Write a letter to the author of your book explaining what you liked about the book and ask at least three questions that you still have about the story. If they have an address, send it to them with the help of an adult!

### Poetry Planet

Choose three major events from your novel. Using the skills you developed in the poetry unit, write three poems based on those events. Poems should be about 10 lines each.



### Time-Travel Tunnel

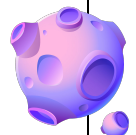
Imagine the main character 10, 20, or 30 years from now. What are they doing? What is their life like and how were they affected by the original story? Write a story about them.

### Novel Film Nebula

Using paper and art materials, design a movie poster for your novel. The poster should feature the title, a central image, at least one character, and a tagline. On the next page, write an explanation of your design choices and a review of the novel.

### Comet Chronicles Crater

Using paper and art supplies, design a tri-fold brochure that reviews your book. One section can be a summary, another can be a character highlight, and the last section can be your review.



# Brainstorming Blastoff Activity



**DIRECTIONS:** Once you have picked a project from the choice board, use this page to answer the questions below to brainstorm for your project. Remember, no wrong answers here – just ideas! You will not answer every question on this page.

1. What's the book you're using for this project?

Book title: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Who's the protagonist?

Protagonist: \_\_\_\_\_

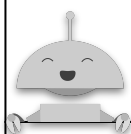
## **Remember:**

Take a look back at all the tools that you created during this unit to help you create your project!



### **If you chose Alternate Ending Asteroid Belt or Time-Travel Tunnel ...**

What's a key event you'd change or explore in the future?



### **If you chose Lunar Letter Station ...**

List the questions you would like to ask the author.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### **If you chose Poetry Planet ...**

List the events or characters that you will write poems about.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### **If you chose Novel Film Nebula or Comet Chronicles Crater ...**

What image or scene from the novel will you include?



3. What's one question or idea you have about your project? Write it down!

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# Days 2-5

## Recommended Schedule



**DIRECTIONS:** Use the following as a recommended schedule for your project workdays. You can check off the steps as you complete them.

### Day 2: Detailed Planning & Organizing



- Look at your brainstorming notes one more time.
- Make a list or quick sketch of what you want to include in your project.
- Get all the materials you need to start making your project.
- Look back at the different tools you created throughout the unit.

### Day 3: Starting the Creation Process

- Begin working on your project. This could be writing, drawing, or any other activity.
- Try to finish about half of it by the end of the day. For written projects, this might mean having half of your draft done.

### Day 4: Continuing Creation & Refinement

- Continue where you left off from Day 3.
- Aim to nearly finish your project today.
- Look at what you've done so far and see if you want to make it even better.

### Day 5: Finalizing & Reviewing

- Check your project one last time for any small changes.
- Make sure you've done everything the project description asked for.
- Use the checklist on p. 24 to see how you did.
- Review the rubric on p. 25 and make sure you self-assess your project before it's finalized so you can make any last-minute changes.
- High five! You worked hard, and now it's done!

## Alternate Ending Asteroid Belt Project Example



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project. The following example is based off of *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery.

Anne sat with Marilla on the porch; the summer air was heavy but a slight breeze made it bearable. They were talking about Anne’s future and the possibility of her going to college. Gilbert had already proposed that they could exchange their teaching positions so Anne could stay close to Green Gables.

Just then, Gilbert arrived, looking somewhat anxious but hopeful. “Anne, could I talk to you for a moment?”

Anne stood up and walked with him to the garden. She could feel her heart pounding but didn’t know why.

“Anne, I’ve been thinking a lot, and I’ve decided to go to medical school out West. It’s a big step, and I’d like you to come with me,” Gilbert said, looking deep into her eyes. “Would you marry me, Anne?”

Anne felt the weight of the question and the future it implied. She looked at Gilbert, into the eyes of a man who had been her friend and her intellectual equal for so long.

“Would we come back to Avonlea?” Anne asked, her eyes shimmering with a mix of fear and hope.

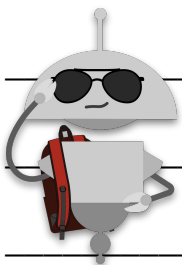
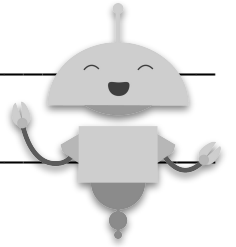
“Yes. As a doctor, I could serve the community better,” Gilbert replied.

After a moment of thought, Anne looked up and said, “Yes, Gil. I’ll marry you and go out West, but only after I finish college. I’ve lived so much of my life in my imagination; it’s time that I focus on my real future. After I finish school, I’ll marry you and explore the world with you.”

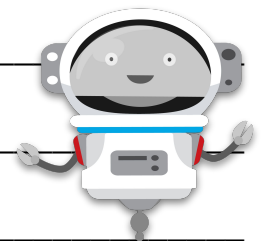
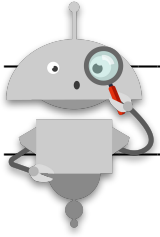
# Alternate Ending Asteroid Belt Project



**DIRECTIONS:** Write an alternate ending for your book. It must include the main characters and dialogue, and it must make sense with the story. Try to write like the author did!



# Alternate Ending Project (cont.)

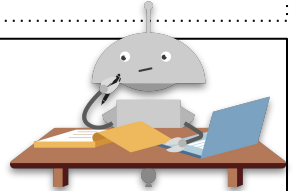


## Lunar Letter Station Project Example



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project. The following example is based off of *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo.

Dear Ms. DiCamillo,



Hi! My name is Mia, and I'm in the 6th grade. I just read *The Tale of Despereaux*, and wow, it's amazing! I really loved how brave Despereaux is, even though he's just a tiny mouse. He made me feel like even I could do big things if I'm brave.

I do have some questions about the story.

What happened to Despereaux's brothers? Did they ever change their minds about being "normal" mice?

Why did Roscuro decide to live in darkness? Will he ever come back to the light?

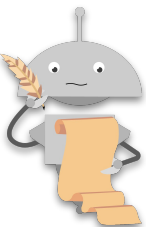
Was Mig able to make friends in the castle after everything got settled?

I really hope you write back! Your story was so cool, and I can't wait to read more of your books!

Sincerely,

Mia

P.S. My family helped me find your email address, so I hope you get this letter!

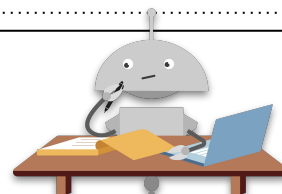




# Lunar Letter Station Project

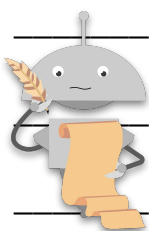


**DIRECTIONS:** Write a letter to the author of your book. Explain what you liked about the book and ask at least three questions that you still have about the story. If they have a listed address, send it to them with a help of an adult!

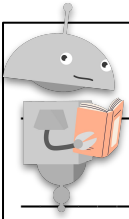


Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

A series of horizontal lines providing space for writing a letter.

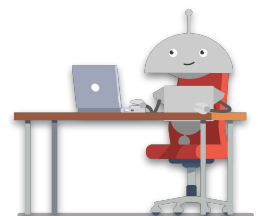


# Lunar Letter Station Project (cont.)



A large rectangular area containing 18 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the page.

Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_



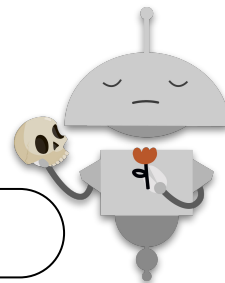
# Poetry Planet Project Example



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project. The following example is based off of *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis.

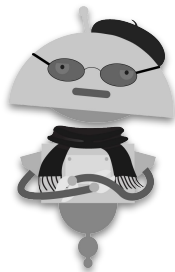
In a room with nothing more,  
Found a door that's not a bore.  
Wooden whispers gently glide,  
"Step within, look inside"  
Walk through fur, to my surprise,  
Snowflakes meet my open eyes.  
Land of Narnia, cold and bright,  
Wardrobe's gift, a magic flight.  
Fantasy within what's real,  
Wardrobe magic, so surreal.

Poem Title: The Wardrobe



Poem Title: The Final Battle

Snow melts away, Spring is near,  
Witch's rule ends, we all cheer.  
Swords and shields held high,  
For Narnia, we win or die.  
Battle roars on stone-cold ground,  
Victory's horn makes its sound.  
Good defeats the wicked queen,  
Aslan reigns, forever serene.  
Narnia cheers, the battle's won,  
Four thrones for daughters and sons.



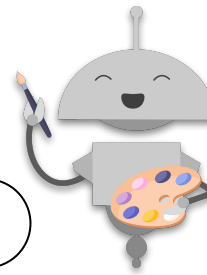
## Poetry Planet Project Example (cont.)



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project.

Whispers in the forest grow,  
Aslan's back, didn't you know?  
Long-lost king with mane so grand,  
Returns to save this icy land.  
Animals cheer, the dryads sing,  
Joy and hope Aslan will bring.  
Lantern glows in darkest night,  
Aslan's back, to make things right.  
Evil's end is now in sight,  
The true king returns his might.

Poem Title: Aslan's Return



# Poetry Planet Project



**DIRECTIONS:** Choose three major events from your novel. Using the skills you developed in the poetry unit, write three poems based on those events. Poems should be about 10 lines each. Draw an image on the next page to accompany your poems.

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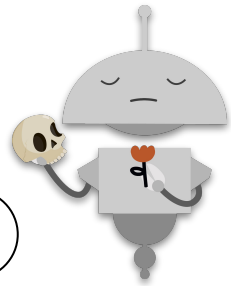
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Poem Title:  
\_\_\_\_\_



Poem Title:  
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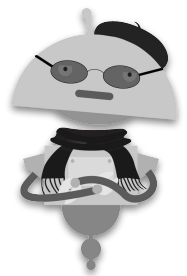
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## Poetry Planet Project (cont.)

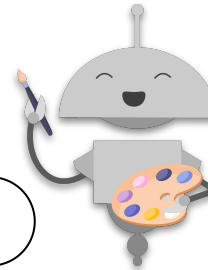


**DIRECTIONS:** Choose three major events from your novel. Using the skills you developed in the poetry unit, write three poems based on those events. Poems should be about 10 lines each. Draw an image at the bottom of this page to accompany your poems.

A large, rounded rectangular area designed to look like a scroll. It features ten horizontal lines for writing. The top-left and bottom-left corners are curled up, and the bottom-right corner is curled down.

Poem Title:

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A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing an illustration to accompany the poems.

## Time-Travel Tunnel Project Example



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project. The following example is based off of *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan.

Esperanza stood in the vineyard, the same place where her journey to a new life had begun so many years ago. She felt the warm California sun on her skin and took a deep breath, smelling the earthy grapes. She was now the owner of this vineyard, but it was more than just a business to her; it was a symbol of her struggle, her past, and her new beginnings.

Mama had passed away five years ago, and Esperanza missed her every day. But Mama’s teachings and love had shaped her into a strong, compassionate woman. She had turned the vineyard into a sanctuary for people looking for a better life, just like she and her family once were.

“Mama, Papa, Abuelita, look what we have accomplished,” she whispered, looking up at the sky.

Just then, her daughter, Rosa, came running into the vineyard. “Mama, the school called. They want you to give a speech for the graduating class!”

Esperanza smiled. “Of course, I’d love to inspire the young minds,” she said, hugging Rosa tightly.

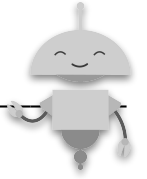
“Your story will give them hope, Mama, just like it gave us,” Rosa said.

Esperanza knew she had a story worth sharing, a tale of rising from hardships. And so, she prepared herself to share it, hoping to inspire a new generation, just as she had been inspired by those who came before her.

# Time-Travel Tunnel Project



**DIRECTIONS:** Imagine the main character 10, 20, or 30 years from now. What are they doing? What is their life like and how were they affected by the original story? Write a story about them.



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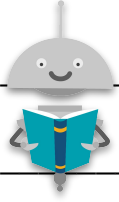
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# Time-Travel Tunnel Project (cont.)



## Novel Film Nebula Project Example



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project. The following example is based off of *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen.



## Novel Film Nebula Project Example (cont.)



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own design explanation and book review to accompany the movie poster.

### Explanation of My Design Choices

When I thought about what to put on my movie poster, I really wanted to show the major events of the story. I picked a picture of a plane because the crash is what starts everything for Brian. The hatchet is super important to Brian in the story, so I put it in the middle. I also added the calm lake to show the calm moments when Brian thinks about his life. My tagline, “One Boy, One Hatchet, One Chance To Survive,” is there because Brian had to find strength inside himself to keep going. I also included Brian at the bottom of the poster since he’s the protagonist.

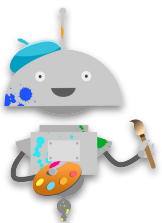
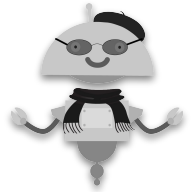
### Review of *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen

*Hatchet* is a book that I couldn’t put down. It’s all about Brian trying to live in the woods after a plane crash. I kept thinking about how hard it would be to do everything he did, like finding food and staying safe from animals. The coolest part was when Brian learned to make a fire! It’s not just a story about being lost; it’s also about finding out how strong you can be when things get tough. If you’re looking for a book that’s exciting and makes you think, *Hatchet* is a good one to read.

# Novel Film Nebula Project



**DIRECTIONS:** Using the template below or other materials, design a movie poster for your novel. The front should feature the title, a central image, at least one character, and a tagline. On the back, write an explanation of your design choices and a review of the novel.



## Novel Film Nebula Project (cont.)



**DIRECTIONS:** Using the lines below or the device of your choice, write an explanation of your movie poster design choices and a review of the novel. Make sure to explain why you chose the images, character, and tagline for your poster.

A large rectangular area containing 18 horizontal lines for writing. In the bottom right corner of this area, there is a small cartoon character of a girl with glasses and a scarf.

# Comet Chronicles Crater Project Example



**DIRECTIONS:** Below is an example of what you could create for this project. Review the example and use it as a model as you create your own project. The following example is based off of *Holes* by Louis Sachar.



## Book Summary

In *Holes*, Stanley Yelnats gets wrongly accused of stealing and is sent to Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention camp in the Texas desert. But it's not just about the holes they dig; it's about a family curse, friendship, and buried treasure. Stanley and his friend Zero uncover the mystery of Camp Green Lake.

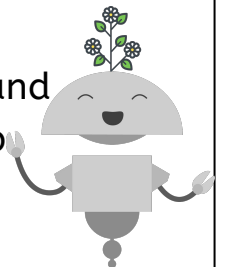
## Character Highlight

Zero is quiet but super smart! His real name is Hector Zeroni. At first, everyone thinks he's not smart, but he's actually the one who solves the puzzle of the treasure. Stanley teaches Zero how to read and write. Zero becomes Stanley's best friend, and they help each other survive and escape from the camp.



## Book Review

I give this book 5 stars! It has adventure, mystery, and even a bit of history. The story jumps from the past to the present, and all the little details fit together like puzzle pieces by the end. Plus, it teaches you about friendship and standing up for what's right.





# Day 5

## Book Review Project Checklist



**DIRECTIONS:** Use the checklist below to review your work so far. Make sure you go back to your project to make any final changes.

### ✓ 1. Project DIRECTIONS:



- Reread the project directions.
- Check if each requirement from the directions has been completed.

### ✓ 2. Creativity and Presentation:

- Check if the project looks engaging and shows your personal touch.
- Ensure visual elements, if any, are clear and support your project.

### ✓ 3. Proofreading:

- Read through your work to spot any spelling or grammar errors.
- Check for any sentences that might be confusing or out of place.

### ✓ 4. Feedback:

- Ask a friend or trusted adult to review your project.
- Listen to their feedback and make improvements if needed.



# Book Review Project Rubric



**DIRECTIONS:** Use this rubric to self-assess your project. Read each box and write a check in the box that best fits your project.

	Excellent	Proficient	Developing	Beginning
Project Elements	All required elements are included and additional elements are added to enhance the project.	All required elements are included.	Most required elements are included, but the project is missing one or two.	Several required elements are missing, indicating that the project is incomplete.
Creativity	Project is extremely creative and original. It really shows unique thinking.	Good level of creativity is shown. The project has some elements that make it stand out.	Some creativity is present, but more unique or original elements could be included.	Limited creativity displayed. A stronger effort to include original or unique elements is needed.
Understanding	Project shows many examples of the book's themes, characters, and events.	Project shows good examples of the book's themes, characters, and events but may miss some minor points.	Project shows some examples of the novel's themes, characters, and events but misses key points.	Project shows little to no examples of the book's content.
Conventions	Project has almost no spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors.	Project has few spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors.	Project has some spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors throughout.	Project has many spelling, punctuation, or grammatical errors throughout.