

### Educator Information and Directions

#### Student Objectives

1. Use resources to select an independent reading novel
2. Review the six elements of fiction

#### Note for Educators:

While this lesson is scheduled for one day, we encourage you to dedicate enough time for your student to select and acquire their independent novel.

Some options could be to complete this lesson over a weekend or in conjunction with the end of Unit 8.

We strongly encourage students to have some ownership in the selection of the novel to increase their buy-in to the unit. Educators may use the suggested reading list or create their own list for their student to choose from.

#### DAY 1

- Watch the **Video Lesson** and complete your **Guided Notes**.
- Review the **Suggested Reading List**.
- Complete the **Reading Interest Survey**.
- Complete the **Fiction Review**.
- Complete the **Online Practice 1** and the **Online Assessment**.

#### Suggested Reward

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

### Extension Activities

**Novel Speed Dating** 🕒: Gather three to five books at your reading level that you've never read. You can do this at home, at the library, or even at a bookstore! Set a timer for five minutes. Skim through a book's cover, summary, and first page. When time is up, reset the clock and switch to another book. Think about which one captures your interest the most!

**Wish List** 📖: Make a "Reading Wish List." Record the titles of books you have heard about or are curious to read. You can make a poster or a digital list. Check the books off as you continue your independent reading journey!

**Shelf Talkers** 📌: Do you ever notice those little recommendation notes in bookstores? Make your own "shelf talker" for a novel you have picked to recommend it to prospective buyers. Why should others give it a try?



Complete While Watching Video



Example



Student Practice



Write It Out!

# Suggested Reading List



Check out this list to help guide your independent novel choice! Each section starts with simpler reads and moves to more challenging ones. It is always a good idea to chat with an adult you trust about picking a book. Happy reading! 📚

## Adventure 🌲

*Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell: Based on a true story, it's about a young girl named Karana who learns to survive alone on an island off the California coast.

*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson: Young Jim Hawkins sets sail on a dangerous adventure in search of buried pirate treasure.

*The Call of the Wild* by Jack London: The transformation of a domestic dog, Buck, as he answers the call of the wild in the untamed Yukon Territory.

## Historical Fiction ⌚

*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan: From a life of luxury in Mexico to the labor camps of California, Esperanza navigates the challenges of the Great Depression.

*Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder: Laura and her family journey westward, facing the challenges and adventures of pioneer life.

*Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis: During the Great Depression, 10-year-old Bud goes on a quest to find his father, guided by a suitcase full of peculiar items.

## Mystery 🔍

*Holes* by Louis Sachar: Wrongly accused and sent to a desert detention camp, Stanley Yelnats digs holes and discovers family secrets.

*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg: Claudia and Jamie run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and uncover a mystery involving a beautiful statue.

*The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin: A gripping mystery involving 16 heirs trying to figure out the cryptic will of a deceased millionaire.

## Coming of Age 🌱

*Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo: A summer in a new town becomes memorable for Opal after she adopts a dog she names Winn-Dixie.

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander: Basketball and family intertwine in this poetic story about teenage twin brothers Josh and JB.

*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen: After a plane crash, Brian Robeson must survive alone in the Canadian wilderness with only a hatchet as his resource.

# Suggested Reading List



Check out this list to help guide your independent novel choice! Each section starts with simpler reads and moves to more challenging ones. It is always a good idea to chat with an adult you trust about picking a book. Happy reading!

## Fantasy

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle: Meg Murry, with her brother and friend, journey through time and space to save her father from a cosmic evil.

*The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis: Four siblings step through a wardrobe into Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter by a wicked witch.

*The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster: Bored Milo receives a magical tollbooth and embarks on a journey, discovering the importance of learning and imagination.

## Graphic Novels

*El Deafo* by Cece Bell: The author gives a semi-autobiographical account of childhood experiences with hearing loss and the challenges and triumphs of growing up different.

*Bone* series by Jeff Smith: The Bone cousins, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone, find themselves in a vast, uncharted desert filled with strange creatures and mysteries.

*Smile* by Raina Telgemeier: The author recounts a true story of her journey with braces, boy trouble, and friendship drama over the years.

## Realistic Fiction

*Front Desk* by Kelly Yang: 10-year-old Mia Tang manages the front desk at a motel where her parents work, all while navigating school and friendships.

*Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson: Jade is a young artist from Portland, Oregon. She joins a mentor program for young girls and faces many challenges, like being treated differently because of her race.

*Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper: Melody, a brilliant girl with cerebral palsy, finds her voice and fights to be heard in a world that often overlooks her.

## Science Fiction

*City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau: In a city where darkness reigns, two kids discover clues to a mystery that could lead them to the outside world.

*The Giver* by Lois Lowry: In a world without pain, color, or memories, Jonas is chosen to be the Receiver of Memory, uncovering secrets about his community. As he learns more, Jonas faces tough choices.

*The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells: A time traveler journeys far into the future, discovering a world divided between the Eloi and the Morlocks.

# Day 1

## Guided Notes



**Guided Notes:** While you are watching the video, fill in the information below for your notes.

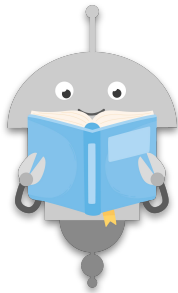
### Planet Novel - Where Do I Start?

#### Past experiences

Think about books or movies you've really enjoyed.



What did you like about past stories?

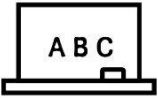


- Action
- Mystery
- Hilarious characters
- Epic adventure
- Growing up
- Futuristic city



Note one or more stories that you have loved in the past:

# Guided Notes (cont.)



**Guided Notes:** While you are watching the video, fill in the information below for your notes.

## Locating Novels

### Your Local \_\_\_\_\_

You can discover a universe of tales and adventures like ...

- ★ *The Secret Garden*
- ★ *The Crossover*

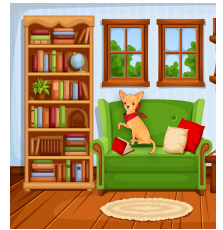
*\*Share your past reading voyages with the librarians and they will help set you on course for a new thrilling journey.*



### Family & Friends' \_\_\_\_\_

You might find stories like ...

- ★ *Hatchet*
- ★ *Anne of Green Gables*
- ★ *The Call of the Wild*
- ★ *Because of Winn-Dixie*
- ★ *Where the Red Fern Grows*



### \_\_\_\_-books

Your digital portals to tales like ...

- ★ *Peter Pan*
- ★ *Treasure Island*



### \_\_\_\_\_ or Secondhand Stores

You might stumble upon copies of novels like ...

- ★ *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
- ★ *Little Women*



How do you think you will get your book for our adventure?



# Reading Interest Survey



**DIRECTIONS:** Hey there, future space explorer! Before we embark on our journey through the Language Skills Galaxy, let's figure out which book you're most interested in exploring. Read each statement below. If you agree with the statement, put a check! If you disagree, leave it blank and move on to the next!



1. I wish I could wield a sword or have a mythical creature as a pet. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Stories about the past intrigue me. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I get a thrill from piecing together clues and uncovering secrets. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I love how comics or illustrations can convey a story so vividly. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The idea of searching for hidden treasures, exploring unknown lands, or embarking on daring missions excites me. \_\_\_\_\_
6. The thought of aliens, other planets, or futuristic tech gadgets is interesting to me. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Narratives about young people navigating their way through life's challenges and finding themselves interest me. \_\_\_\_\_
8. I like stories about everyday people, situations, and problems – ones that could happen in real life. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Books that reflect the highs and lows of daily life, with relatable characters, appeal to me. \_\_\_\_\_
10. I enjoy books with visual art, like comics, where the story is told through illustrations as much as through words. \_\_\_\_\_
11. I'm curious about what life was like in the past, especially during important events or time periods. \_\_\_\_\_
12. I love stories about magical creatures, enchanted lands, and otherworldly adventures. \_\_\_\_\_
13. I enjoy solving puzzles and I like stories where characters are trying to solve a mystery or crime. \_\_\_\_\_
14. I'm drawn to stories about growing up, learning life lessons, and undergoing personal transformation. \_\_\_\_\_
15. I'm fascinated by the future, space, or alternative realities where advanced technology or science plays a big role. \_\_\_\_\_
16. I love tales of thrilling quests, explorations, or journeys, whether they are in the modern world or uncharted territories. \_\_\_\_\_

# Reading Interest Survey - Results



**DIRECTIONS:** For each item you checked on the last page, check the line for its matching genre. Then, count the number of check marks for each genre and write the number in the box below. The one with the highest number might be your next favorite read! If you have a tie, consider exploring books from each genre!

1. Fantasy \_\_\_\_\_
2. Historical Fiction \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mystery \_\_\_\_\_
4. Graphic Novels \_\_\_\_\_
5. Adventure \_\_\_\_\_
6. Sci-Fi \_\_\_\_\_
7. Coming of Age \_\_\_\_\_
8. Realistic Fiction \_\_\_\_\_
9. Realistic Fiction \_\_\_\_\_
10. Graphic Novels \_\_\_\_\_
11. Historical Fiction \_\_\_\_\_
12. Fantasy \_\_\_\_\_
13. Mystery \_\_\_\_\_
14. Coming of Age \_\_\_\_\_
15. Sci-Fi \_\_\_\_\_
16. Adventure \_\_\_\_\_

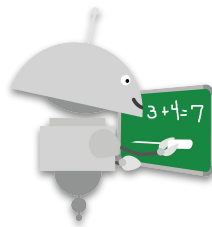
## Results:

Fantasy = \_\_\_\_

Historical Fiction = \_\_\_\_

Graphic Novels = \_\_\_\_

Sci-Fi = \_\_\_\_



Realistic Fiction = \_\_\_\_

Mystery = \_\_\_\_

Coming of Age = \_\_\_\_

Adventure = \_\_\_\_

Which genre will you explore for your independent novel? Why?

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Where will you look to get your novel? Write a plan below!

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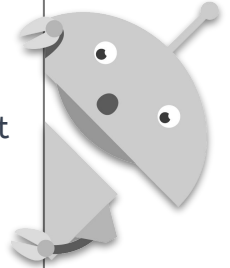
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# Fiction Review



**DIRECTIONS PART A:** Match each element of fiction on the left with the letter of its definition on the right. You can revisit Unit 6 to help you!

<p><b>Characters</b> ____</p> <p><b>Setting</b> ____</p> <p><b>Plot</b> ____</p> <p><b>Conflict</b> ____</p> <p><b>Foreshadowing</b> ____</p> <p><b>Theme</b> ____</p>	<p><b>A.</b> The time and place of the story</p> <p><b>B.</b> The events that make up a story</p> <p><b>C.</b> Hints about what will happen next</p> <p><b>D.</b> The universal message or lesson</p> <p><b>E.</b> The people or beings in a story</p> <p><b>F.</b> The struggle or problem in the story</p>
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**DIRECTIONS PART B:** Now read the short story and fill in the elements below.

Jake, an astronaut, arrived at Starlight Station, located on the distant moon of Astrovia. His mission was to investigate a strange signal that had been detected inside. The station, though technologically advanced, felt isolated and empty. As Jake explored, he discovered a curious-looking robot named Blink, who had been sending the signal. Blink’s screen often displayed an old photograph of a human with a heartfelt message: “Come back soon.” Jake wondered who it could be. Days passed, and suddenly, a transmission arrived: Blink’s previous human companion was searching for him, having been separated during an evacuation. Jake, seeing the matching photo on Blink’s screen, understood the depth of their bond and knew he had to help them reunite.

<b>Characters</b>		<b>Conflict</b>	
<b>Setting</b>		<b>Foreshadowing</b>	
<b>Plot</b>		<b>Theme</b>	