

## Informational Text Homework for Quarter #4

As we begin to move toward the end of the school year and more closely align with Common Core standards, the focus of Language Arts will move toward working with informational texts. Because of this, ELA homework will be slightly different and be made up of two parts.

First, students will continue to complete independent reading (a book of their own choosing). Reading should be at least **20 minutes per night** and the **student should be asking for a signature each night on the reading log**. This reading log will still be turned in each week on Friday. There will no longer be a reading reflection (written paragraph) component.

The second part of homework will be in the form of multiple readings on an informational text each week. The following schedule should guide the student in completing one, focused task each night. On Fridays, students should be prepared to discuss the article for that week in a Socratic Seminar, class discussion and turn in the written portion. **For this to be done effectively, it is important that the student re-reads the text each night before completing each task.**

**Monday:** *“reading for understanding”*

1. Read article carefully for meaning. While reading, circle 3-5 unknown words.
2. Look up unknown vocabulary words online or in a dictionary.

**Tuesday:** *“reading to clarify main ideas”*

1. Read the article carefully with a highlighter.
2. While reading, highlight one important phrase or line in each paragraph.
3. After reading and highlighting, write a short and focused summary.

**Wednesday:** *“reading to connect & respond”*

1. Read the article carefully with a pen or pencil.
2. Underline any evidence the author presents to help support their position.
3. Write an opinion paragraph.

**Thursday:** *Socratic Seminar preparation*

1. Examine, understand, and think about the essential question for the article.
2. Read the article carefully WITHOUT anything in your hand.
3. After reading, brainstorm two level 2 and/or level 3 questions that you can bring to our discussion on Friday.

**Please sign below stating that you have read and understand the new homework requirements. Feel free to email or call me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your continued support!**

X \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

All the best,

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