



Grade 5 Reading Unit 4- Fantasy Book Clubs

The unit begins with immersion and inquiry to orient readers with the genre of fantasy. Once readers are more familiar with the genre they will research the setting, consider who has the power, track characters, their problems, and multiple plotlines and start to uncover possible themes. To end the unit fantasy readers will focus on thinking metaphorically, comparing fantasy to real life, consider symbolism, interpret allegories, and identify archetypes.

In this unit your child will focus on building their comprehension through deep conversations with their peers. They will prepare discussion questions, come up with big ideas about their texts, and support their opinion with text based evidence. We also use this unit to learn about building on the conversation of our peers, including disagreeing respectfully with others' opinions.

The skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Setting goals for book club and following common expectations
- Making inferences
- Supporting ideas with evidence
- Understanding character and theme
- Taking strong notes
- Choosing thought provoking questions
- Sustaining conversations

Questions to ask as your child is reading at home:

- How do readers learn about real life from fantasy books?
- How is the world of the story similar or different from our world today?
- When reading fantasy, how does understanding characteristics of genre (archetypes, motifs, hero's journey, symbolism, etc.) help you uncover the author's message?

Some books your child will be exposed to in class are:

The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe

Jumanji by Chris Van Allsburg

The Thief of Always by Clive Barker

This unit will focus on conversing with peers about a certain text. Your child will learn to build upon conversations of his or her peers and agree/disagree respectfully. You can support your child by having similar conversations about a text and/or topic. Asking one another questions and finding ways to defend your opinion and responding respectfully will aid in their ability to discuss a text.