

5th -8th Grade Book Review Template

Flex Summer Work Assignment

Choose **one** of the following books to read in its entirety this summer and complete the corresponding, novel-specific assignments.

5 th Grade	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
<i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> by Wilson Rawls <i>Sign of the Beaver</i> by Elizabeth George Speare	<i>Gregor the Overlander</i> by Susanne Collins <i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i> by C.S. Lewis	<i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen <i>The City of Ember</i> by Jeanne DuPrau	<i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> by Norton Juster <i>Tuesdays With Morrie</i> by Mitch Albom

Part 1: Book Summary

Use the checklist below to guide your composition of a four-paragraph book report after you have finished reading your assigned novel. Each paragraph should include no less than 5 sentences each and include thoughtful, specific plot events.

_____ **Paragraph #1:** Write about the setting (when and where the story takes place).

- State the novel’s title and author’s name in your topic sentence.
- Introduce the main character (protagonist) in the story.
- Include his or her name, character traits/qualities.
- Discuss what conflict/problem the main character faces in the story.
- Be sure to include the answer to who, what, when, where, and how.

_____ **Paragraph #2:** Summarize what happens to build the conflict.

- What major decision(s) did the main character have to make?
- How the conflict is solved in the end.
- Use transition words to help your summary flow.
- What theme/lesson did you learn from the character’s experiences?

first	also	because	another
second	between	next	as a result
third	finally	then	later
last	after that	for example	during

_____ **Paragraph #3:** Write a paragraph giving your opinion on the book.

- Include why you like or dislike the book. Give details, for example, was the book’s storyline easy or difficult to follow?
- Was the series of events told in order, or were there flashbacks and foreshadows?
- Was it predictable/believable?
- Did you like the ending?
- What was your favorite part?
- What connections did you make with your life and/or other books or movies?
- Discuss the author’s style of writing and give examples from the book.

_____ **Paragraph #4:** Explain whether you would recommend this book to a friend.

- Rate the book from 1 star to 5 stars and give reasons and examples to defend your rating.
- Examples should include a quote or quotes from the book or a summary of the part of the book that you enjoyed or did not enjoy.