

Literature Circle: *Window Notes*

Name

Title

Section 1 2 3 4

Pages _____ to _____

BEFORE THE DISCUSSION:

Review the assigned reading selection and record your responses in the windows. Use this as an opportunity to extend your thinking about the text. In order to facilitate a discussion, it might be helpful to jot down bulleted notes in each section or brainstorm a list of ideas related to the topic.

AFTER THE DISCUSSION:

On the back of this sheet, record interesting or significant ideas you heard your group members say. How did their ideas help you understand the text more? Why? What are important ideas to look for in the next reading section?

*Adapted from materials from
Mini-lessons for Literature
Circles (Heinemann: 2004) by
Daniels and Steineke*

Passages: Record any words, lines, or sections of the story that “stick out” for you. These passages might be important, puzzling, curious, provocative, dubious, or well-written – whatever grabs your attention.

Questions: What questions came to mind while you read? Think about questions that ponder, debate, or consider important ideas in the text.

Reactions/Connections: What were your feelings and responses? Did it remind you of past experiences, people, or events in your life? Did it make you think of anything happening in the news, around school, in other stories or books you have read?

Author’s Craft: What did you notice about the author’s style, language, point of view, literary devices, or structures she/he used and how they enhance the story?