

**Level:** Grade 7 - 9

**Class Size:** 20 - 25 students

**Unit:** Civil War – Book Talks

**Time Needed:** 40 minutes

**Classroom Composition:** General mainstream classroom including special education students.

### **Stage 1: Identify Desired Results**

#### **a. Enduring Understandings**

- **Goal:** The learners should be able to have an intelligent, age appropriate, and peaceful discussion on the contents of independent reading books.
  
- **Objectives:**
  - The learners will be cooperative during discussion.
  - The learners will discuss key concepts that are a common thread in their reading books.
  - The learners will connect events in the reading to real life scenarios.
  - The learners will practice appropriate listening skills.
  
- **Connections to the Maine Learning Results**
  - English Language Arts, Grade 8 A1 (Reading - Interconnected Elements: Comprehension, Vocabulary, *Alphabetics*, *Fluency*)
    - a. “Use a range of before, during, and after *reading strategies* to deepen their understanding of the author’s message.”
  - English Language Arts, Grades 6-8 E1 (Listening and Speaking - Listening)
    - a. “Formulate clarifying questions.”
    - b. “Examine and critique information presented.”

c. "Expand on ideas presented by others."

- Career and Education Development, Grades 6-8 A3 (Learning About Self-Knowledge and Interpersonal Relationships - Interpersonal Skills)

a. "Getting along with others."

i. "Following established rules/etiquette for observing/listening."

**b. Essential Questions**

The essential questions asked will change with each book talk.

**c. Knowledge and Skills**

Students have taken part in group discussions before. They should remember and follow these guidelines.

**Stage 2: Determine Acceptable Evidence**

**d. Performance Tasks**

Students will be asked to take part in discussion.

**e. Quizzes, Tests, Prompts**

Prompts will be provided as needed by the teacher.

**f. Unprompted Evidence**

The teacher will be keeping observation on those that are being sidetracked.

**g. Self Assessment**

Students will have a chance to ask questions in order to achieve clarification of topics raised by others.

**Stage 3: Plan Learning Experiences and Instruction**

**h. Sequence of Learning Experience/Instruction**

1. Have the topic of the discussion written up on the board, along with the heading of the activity, Book Talk.

TOPIC:

2. Hand out book talk papers. Allow students about 5 minutes to quietly write down answers that correspond to their book.
3. Pull the class into a circle (or have seats arranged before hand). Use the paper and pre-decided topic as a launching off point for discussion.
4. Have fun and see where this goes! Make sure to collect book talk sheets. This will be your attendance record.

**i. Materials and Resource**

- Book talk worksheets