

# Literature Circles Initial Training

## Day 1

Read short story #1

## Day 2-4

Train the roles using short story #1

Summarizer (everyone does, every time)

Discussion Director

Connector

Passage Master

Illustrator

# Literature Circles Practice

## Option #1

Read short stories #1-4

Complete a literature circles meeting with each story. All groups read the same short story. The roles in the group rotate with each short story. Usually takes about 2 days per short story.

(This option can be skipped with more advanced students.)

## Option #2

Read a class novel

Complete literature circles with a whole class novel. All groups read the same novel. The roles in the group rotate with each meeting. Set up meetings for twice a week. Divide the novel into 6 meetings. Teach students how to divide the book. Have students fill in a literature circles planning sheet. Also, have students evaluate each meeting.

# Literature Circles Making it Happen

## First Meeting

Introduce the novel choices.

Give book talks on the different novels they can choose from. If, for example, you have 8 groups let them choose from 10 titles.

Allow students to look through the books.

Have students write down the titles in the order of their interest. At the bottom of the page allow them to list the people they know they can't work with.

## Second Meeting

Assign groups. Pass out books. Allow groups to organize their planning sheets. Help them with assigning roles. Tell them how many meeting you will have and when you will have them. Help them split up the reading.

## Third Meeting

The actual literature circles begins. All groups should meet at the same time. This is not part of small group instruction!