Learning Target: I can read the text to make inferences about the character and use textual evidence to support my conclusions.

**Body Biography Assignment**

A body biography is a visual portrait illustrating various aspects of a character’s life through the use of pictures, symbols, words, and phrases. Your job is to develop an abstract representation of one of the people from the novel, story, or article you chose to read.

The goal of this assignment is **not only** to illustrate what you imagine the character looks like, but to dig deeper into the character; in other words, you are **NOT** just drawing a picture of the character (eyes, hair, face, skin color, etc.). Instead, make a complete visual representation of the character in different, creative ways.

Use symbols, colors, quotations from the text, and/or other words. You may use the computer to develop your image if you would like or you may hand-write and hand-draw your body biography (using original artwork and/or cut-outs from magazines).

Here are some things to consider:

- **Colors**—Colors are often symbolic. What color(s) fit this character? Why? How can you work these colors into your image?

- **Symbols**—What objects or things symbolize this character? Think of significant events or actions from the book that the character was involved in; how could you represent those events or actions with symbols or basic pictures?

- **Words**—What significant quotations or phrases associated with this character? Think **STAAR**: Actions the character did, things the character said or thought, or descriptions the narrator or other characters made of the character? Any quotes used must be EXACT word for word from the text and be cited with page numbers. Find at least one quote for each of the following body parts of this character:
  a. **T** Brain: What does the character think? (Consider virtues/vices.)
  b. **S** Mouth: What does the character say (quotes) and what is their voice/tone like?
  c. **A** Arm: What are the character’s greatest virtues and vices/strengths and weaknesses?
  d. **T** Heart: What feelings does the character possess?
  e. **T** Spine/Backbone: What are the character’s beliefs and values?
  f. **A** Hands: What does the character do? Work/School?
  g. **A** Legs: What does the character do? Actions/Behavior?
  h. **A** Appearance: What does the character look like?
  i. **R** Stomach: How do other characters react to your character?

**Grading:**

- At least 10 items present (words, symbols, quotes, etc. each count as one “item” on the body biography visual)
- Colorful, neat, and attractive presentation
- Character’s name and title of the book are both clearly visible