

Tokyo International Progressive School
Middle School Literacy Intervention: Literature Circles Course Outline
2021-2022
Dr.Soulef Batnini, Room 22



DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A literature circle is a student-led group that meets to have engaged discussions about a selection of a book that members know intimately. Group members collaborate in a dynamic process that involves reading, recording responses in a journal, predicting, and questioning. As a component of a comprehensive balanced literacy approach, literature circles provide research-based instruction for vocabulary and skill development. The structured process of literature circles results in students taking ownership of the text and improving their reading comprehension. Overtime, students become skillful at performing specific roles during literature circles. As they discuss, students support one another in achieving their learning goals. Literature Circle roles include: discussion leader, predictor and questioner, skill master, summarizer, character tracker, conflict connector, wordsmith, and much more

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

- Develop the ability to collaborate and communicate thoughts and feelings, build relationships and respond to those of other people
- Develop the high level of skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and vocabulary building which are essential for learning, work and life
- Exercise intellectual curiosity and inquiry by questioning and developing student understanding, and use creative and critical thinking to synthesise ideas and arguments
- Reflect on and explain literacy and thinking skills, using feedback to help improve and sensitively provide useful feedback for others

- Come to class prepared with materials
- No food or drinks are allowed in the classroom. Water bottles will be stored in the lockers. Students will be permitted to leave class and drink at their lockers

EARNING YOUR GRADE

Students grade will be determined by their work in these categories:

Grade Category	Percentage of your grade
6P	50%
Daily Work	50%

1) 6P's: Positive/Pleasant/Polite, Prepared/Punctual/Productive - Positive/pleasant/polite behaviors articulated govern how members of the TIPS community are expected to treat each other. Prepared/punctual/productive behaviors guarantee academic success. A mark out of 10 will be awarded each class based on these criteria:

Positive/Pleasant/Polite

- 1) Do I speak positively about myself, my peers, my teachers and my school?
- 2) Do I always respond positively to adult requests?
- 3) Do I look for opportunities to help others succeed?
- 4) Do I use good manners?
- 5) Am I considerate of the point of view of others?
- 6) Am I a courteous and attentive listener?
- 7) Do I treat the environment respectfully and gently?
- 8) Do I go out of my way to include others in the activity, especially those not part of my circle of friends?

Prepared/Punctual/Productive

- 1) Do I bring all required materials to class?
- 2) Am I on time for class and ready to begin work at the bell?
- 3) Do I participate fully in all the learning activities?
- 4) Am I on task without a teacher's supervision?
- 5) Do I work at a challenging level?
- 6) Do I find ways to assist my peers in their learning?
- 7) Am I supportive of the efforts of my peers in the classroom?
- 8) Do I take care of my own health so I am fully engaged in learning?

2) Daily work

Daily work is anything students complete in class and directly linked to the objective for the lesson.

IMPORTANT DATES

Assessment	Date
Quarter 1 final work	October 4, 2021

Quarter 2 final work	January 14, 2021
Quarter 3 final work	March 31, 2021
Quarter 4 final work	June 1, 2021