Peculiar Story Project

**Creative and Descriptive Writing and Public Speaking project (Gr 3 & 4)**

You will write a narrative story based on imagined events involving a peculiar place. Your story may be creepy, scary, mysterious, funny, whimsical, odd, or just plain strange. You will also create a model of this peculiar place using everyday art materials and boxes. You will publish your story, create a book jacket for publishing, and take our class on a tour through oral presentation.

Places must include a structure: house, mansion, castle, hotel, cabin, book store, theater, shop, abandoned house, or other building structure. It cannot be an outdoor space alone (like a forest), but the outdoor space may *surround* your structure and be part of the setting.



**The Structure:**

Projects must not exceed 24”x24”x24”. Your design should reflect creativity and effort. Your display should show the inside of the structure as well as the outside. In the past, students have chosen to have a half outside view and the other side is the inside view, similar to a doll house. Students have also used innovative ways to have a fold-down wall. These are just some ideas.

*Suggested* art materials: cardboard boxes, foam, felt, scrapbook papers and supplies, construction paper, stickers, small plastic toys, pipe cleaners, glow sticks, battery operated string lights… use your imagination!

FINAL PROJECT DUE DATE: 10/30/2023

**The Story:**

Behind every peculiar place is a story. Behind every good story, there are well-developed story elements:

* Setting – it must include a peculiar place.
* Character – who is your main character? This character should change somehow through the story or learn something (dynamic character).

NO VIDEO GAME OR MOVIE CHARACTERS

* Plot – what is the main issue or problem that drives the story? Your story should help the reader understand why this place is peculiar – or at least why people think it is. What happened there? How did it all begin?
* Events – a clear beginning, middle and end with events that lead to a logical conclusion where the issue or problem is solved.
* Descriptive details and word choice that bring interest to your story

*\*\*\*Please make sure you do not develop violent situations that contain descriptive details that are not appropriate (Parents – please proof read and use good parental judgement).*

**Publishing and Book Jackets**

Students will type the final story using Office365 One Drive, available through VPortal. Stories that *cannot* be typed and printed should be published with the neatest handwriting possible. I am happy to help students get their stories printed at school. They need to have it ready for print no later than Oct 26th. This will give time to order the printed copy to put together with the book jacket and have it prepared to turn in.

**Required - A book jacket** is the cover of a book, front and back. Students can use colored cardstock, construction paper, white paper, etc. It should have a picture, a title and the author/illustrator name. Once students have a printed copy of the story, they can add their own pictures. Books should be bound together using any method (staple, report covers, sheet protectors, ribbons, etc.).

**Oral presentation**

You must be prepared to guide us on a tour of the structure you built. Be sure to show **interest and enthusiasm** about your project **as a storyteller would**. Practice at home! You must speak clearly and make sure everyone can hear you.

***Gifted Goals*** *: Development of communication skills; fostering creativity; development of strong work ethic; complex learning task; setting goals and outcomes (for completion of the project); creating products of high quality; Integration of fields of knowledge.*

THIS PAGE NEEDS TO BE REVISED TO THE NEW BEST STANDARDS

STANDARDS ADDRESSED (3rd and 4th Gr):

**Narrative Writing:**

**3rd Gr:**

LAFS.3.W.1.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

LAFS.3.W.2.4 With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

LAFS.3.W.2.5 With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing.

LAFS.3.W.2.6 With guidance and support from adults, use technology to produce and publish writing (using keyboarding skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others.

**4th Gr**

LAFS.4.W.1.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences

LAFS.4.W.2.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience

LAFS.4.W.2.5 With guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing

LAFS.4.W.2.6 With some guidance and support from adults, use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing as well as to interact and collaborate with others; demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page in a single sitting.

**Language:**

**3rd Gr:**

LAFS.3.L.1.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

LAFS.3.L.1.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

**4th Gr:**

LAFS.4.L.1.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

LAFS.4.L.1.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing

**Speaking & Listening:**

**3rd Gr:**

LAFS.3.SL.2.4 Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

LAFS.3.SL.2.5 Demonstrate fluid reading at an understandable pace, adding visual displays… to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details. Students will use voice to make the story come to life.

LAFS.3.SL.1.3 Ask and answer questions about information from a speaker, offering appropriate elaboration and detail.

**4th Gr:**

LAFS.4.SL.2.4 Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.

LAFS.4.SL.2.5 Add audio recordings and visual displays to presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes

LAFS.4.SL.1.3 Identify the reasons and evidence a speaker provides to support particular points.