

Literature Circle Roles

Researcher

Name _____ Circle _____

Meeting Date _____ Reading Assignment _____

Book _____

Researcher: Your job is to dig up some background information on any relevant topic related to your book. This might include

- The geography, weather, culture, or history of the book's setting
- Pertinent information about the author and other related works
- Information about the time period portrayed in the book
- Information on any topics or events represented in the book
- Information on any topics or events that may have influenced the author
- Pictures, objects, or materials that illustrate elements of the book
- The history and derivation of words or names used in the book
- Information about any character that is based on a historical person

This is *not* a formal research report. The idea is to find some information or material that helps your group understand the book better. Investigate something that really interests you – something that struck you as puzzling or curious while you were reading.

Ways of gathering information:

- The introduction, preface, or "about the author" section of the book
- Library books and magazines
- On-line computer search or encyclopedia
- Interviews with people who know the topic
- Other novels, nonfiction, or textbooks you've read