

Dear Families,

Literacy remains one of our top priorities at A.E. Phillips Laboratory School. We encourage all incoming sixth graders to read and take part in one of the following assignment options as a fun way to stay engaged and prepared for the year ahead. In preparation for unit one (*Esperanza Rising*), your child's novel of choice needs to be related to the Great Depression. **(Please do not allow your child to read *Esperanza Rising* as their book of choice.)**

Students will turn their Choice Board (the information following will explain what a choice board is) into Mrs. Williams on the first day of school. Please be prepared to briefly discuss your book of choice (related to the Great Depression) and share your creation with the class. For students that can not decide on a novel, *What is the Great Depression?* by Janet B. Pascal.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a love of reading.

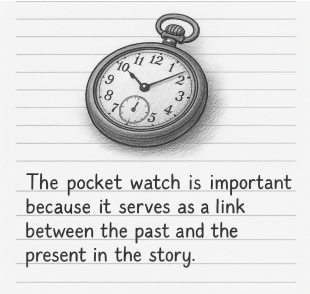



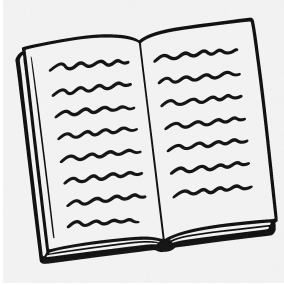
I can't wait to see what the students create!

Educationally,

Mrs. Williams

Choice Board

Students should choose one of the activities to complete. Students should bring their completed project to their ELA class the first week of school.

OBJECT	PHONE CONVERSATION	PLAYLIST
<p>What is an important object in the book? Draw it and explain why this object is important to the plotline. Be sure to write a thorough sentence or two as the caption to explain the picture.</p>  <p>The pocket watch is important because it serves as a link between the past and the present in the story.</p>	<p>Write out an imaginary telephone conversation between you and the author. Pretend the author is a good friend of yours. Ask the author a series of questions related to the book, and come up with their responses.</p> 	<p>What are a few songs on your character's iPhone playlist? Tell the name of the song, the artist, and why you chose that song. Be thorough in your explanation of WHY you chose each of the songs by giving support as related to the book.</p> 
CARTOON	POEM	CONNECTIONS WEB
<p>Draw a cartoon strip with speech bubbles that tell about your story. Include all the elements of the story's plot in your cartoon strip.</p> 	<p>Write a quality poem about a character, the setting or a part of the plotline. Choose a style of poem that shows off your poetic style: this one is for our creative writers!</p> 	<p>Create a character tree or connections web showing the relationships between key people and events in the book. Include a brief explanation of how each person or event played a role in the book</p> 