

# 8<sup>th</sup> grade Book Report - Biography Boxes

*Have you ever read over all of the interesting and informative material that covers the front, sides, and back of a cereal box? Have you ever seen the picture of a great athlete who has graced the cover of a Wheaties box? Keeping these ideas in mind as the basis of this project, your assignment is to do an alternative book report by creating a Biography Box on the famous person whose biography you have just read. These Biography Boxes will be on display at Open House.*

## **Process:**

⇒ **Read a Biography of a famous person who has contributed to society.** There will be no duplication of subjects. Therefore, sign-ups are on a first come, first served basis. You will need to show me the book when signing up so that I can clear it. Make sure that your book would be considered an “adult” book and not a “children’s” one. It should not be less than 150 pages.

**You must have signed up for a book by \_\_\_\_\_.**

⇒ **Take notes while you are reading so that when you finish the book you don’t have to go back to look for all of the information you need**

⇒ **Obtain a regular sized cereal box**

⇒ **Include all of the following information about the subject of your Biography on the front of your box:**

- A large picture or drawing of your biographical figure
- A paragraph explaining why his/her positive contributions to the world make this person famous, and why they deserved to have a book written about them.

⇒ **Include all of the following information about the subject of your Biography on the back and sides of your box:**

- Background facts on their personal life
- Achievements and/or setbacks they’ve had
- Memorable quote or speech given by them or about them
- Greatest strengths/qualities they have shown
- Interesting (“did you know”) qualities or facts about them
- A timeline of at least ten significant events in his/her life (this usually goes well on one of the long sides of the box)

⇒ **Be creative!** Think about the different features on a cereal box - mazes, puzzles, prizes, facts, sweepstakes, catchy titles, and more - and how you can creatively incorporate information from above about your famous person into these features! Make your box colorful and unique so that it stands out just like the subject of your biography has!

## **The final grade will be based on-**

Appearance: Creativity, Effort, Completeness, Attractiveness	(60)
Grammatical Conventions: Correct Spelling, Punctuation and Word Choice	(40)
Content: Thorough Presentation of Information on the Subject	(100)

**Total points possible (200)**

**Biography Box Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

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## Biography Questions of Importance (Use these to help you as you read)

- \*In what ways was the life remarkable?
- \*In what ways was the life admirable?
- \*What human qualities were most influential in shaping the way this person lived and influenced his or her times?
- \*Which quality or trait proved most troubling and difficult?
- \*Which quality or trait was most beneficial?
- \*Did this person make any major mistakes or bad decisions? If so, what were the consequences, if any at all?
- \*What are the two or three most important lessons you or any other young person might learn from the way this person lived?
- \*An older person or mentor is often very important in shaping the lives of gifted people by providing guidance and encouragement. To what extent was this true of your person? Explain.
- \*Many people act out of a "code" or a set of beliefs which dictate choices. It may be religion or politics or a personal philosophy. To what extent did your person act by a code or act independently of any set of beliefs? Were there times when the code was challenged and impossible to follow?
- \*What do you think it means to be a hero? Was your person a "hero?" Why? Why not? How is a hero different from a celebrity?

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## Biography Box Reading Notes with Page Numbers

*page*

**What Made This Person Famous/What Was Their Positive Contribution to the World?**

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**Facts About Their Personal Life**

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**Achievements or Setbacks They Had**

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**Memorable Quotes/Speeches About them or Made By Them**

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**Greatest Strengths and Qualities That They Showed**

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**Interesting (Did You Know) Facts About Them**

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**A Timeline of 10 Significant Events in Their Life**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
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