

Investigator:

Good Reader's Skill: Finding Background Information



What does the Investigator do?

You are seeking to find extra information about the novel you are researching. Your topic may include objects, animals, the author, the series (if applicable), the movie (if applicable), etc. Here are some sample topics for The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963:

- Christopher Paul Curtis
- Flint, Michigan (location, population, etc.)
- Swedish Crème cookies
- The Ultra Glide
- The song "Yakety Yak"
- Outhouses
- Whirlpools
- Birmingham church bombings of 1963

Feel free to use the Internet to research your topic. For example, if my topic is the author of The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963, I might go to Google and try to find an author web page with information about him. Record at least 5 interesting facts and their source on the back.

Example:

Interesting Fact: Christopher Paul Curtis was born in Flint, Michigan.

Source: Randomhouse website

Questions:

Each group member must come up with 5 open-ended questions for discussion on discussion day. Possible open-ended questions might start with:

- What might happen if...?
- How is... like...?
- How is... different from...?
- Do you agree with...? Why/why not?
- What feelings did you have when...?
- What was your first reaction to...?
- Do you think... should have...? Why/Why not?

Question 1:

Question 2:

Question 3:

Question 4:

Question 5:

Investigator:



How do I present to my group?

Start by telling your group members your topic and why you chose it. Then proceed to share your five facts and the sources from which you got them. Be sure to point out particularly interesting facts, and, if you found something in your research that might make a good topic for the next Investigator, recommend it.

Novel: _____

Topic from the novel: _____

Interesting Facts

Sources

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.