

## **Heroes Rise: Children's Book**

### **Driving Question: What do our heroes say about us?**

#### **Background**

[Writers](#) are involved in the creation and development of works of fiction and non-fiction. Most writers work freelance and are self-employed; they usually supplement their income with other related activities such as author visits, workshops, events and readings. [Illustrators](#) use creative skills in art and design to communicate a story, message or idea. Like writers they work freelance and adapt their style depending on the audience and type of message needed.

#### **Role**

You and your partner have been hired by [Pajama Press](#) to write and illustrate a children's book for children aged 7 – 9. Pajama Press is known for publishing exceptional quality books that appeal to children, young adults, librarians, teachers, and parents.

#### **Task**

Your task is to create a children's book in a language (voice) that would entertain and inform a child. Your main character should embody certain heroic attributes and complete a task or come to the aid of another. This character does not have to be human.

#### **PROCEDURE**

1. Read /review 3 different children's books (library visit)
2. Brainstorming session (to generate ideas / possibilities)
3. Complete story maps for the character, plot (conflict) and setting  
[These maps are part of the planning process]
4. Storyboard (include text and rough sketches)
5. Team Review (comment coaching / feedback)
6. Produce book
  - Write and polish text
  - Create illustrations (choose a format / style)
  - Edit and proofread text (if you need a second set of eyes request another team review)
7. Practice reading story aloud
8. Read published story to a young child (age 7 – 9)

#### **Format**

The format of this assignment is a children's book containing text and illustrations that are appropriate, engaging and child-friendly. The book should include a cover and uniform sized pages. Because you are sharing this book, the work should be polished and professional looking.

#### **Audience**

Elementary student(s), peers, teachers, and librarians.

**FYI: This document is part of a PBL project: [Heroes Rise](#).**

## Children's Book Checklist

Reviewers: \_\_\_\_\_

Partners: \_\_\_\_\_

- Is your story long enough (at least **5 to 7** pages)?
- Is there a **main** character?
- Does the main character possess some **characteristics** of a hero?
- Have you included at least **one** supporting character (or sidekick)?
- Is there an **appropriate** setting?
- Is there at least **one** type of **conflict**?
- Does your story have a beginning, middle and end? Is the plot developed **properly** and does it follow a typical **plot development chart**?
- Has your main character accomplished a task or come to someone's aid?
- Does each page contain a minimum of **3 to 5** sentences to add to the story (one paragraph)?
- Is there at least **one** illustration **per** page?
- Have **all** of the illustrations been created and developed **by you** and **your partner**? These illustrations can be drawings or sketches, photographs or cut-outs from magazines, or computer assisted graphic designs.
- Does your book have cover that includes **a title** and **an illustration** both of which **capture** the interest of a child?
- Are all of your pages of **uniform** size? ie. 8 ½ by 11
- Have you told the story using **language** that appeals to a young child?
- Are there any spelling, punctuation and capitalization **errors**?



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