

DOODLE SPLASH

A picture may be worth a thousand words. In this activity, you are going to turn the author's words into pictures or doodles.

Reading and Journaling

1. You will be choosing a short story to read in class. Several other students will be reading the same story and completing the final Doodle Splash with you.
2. While you are reading, you will keep a journal, but this is a different kind of journal. In order to respond to your story, you will be drawing pictures, shapes, symbols, and colors—in other words, doodles.
3. Cover your pages with doodles. Use as few or as many as you wish. Just be sure you cover all of the elements of the short story (setting, plot, character, point of view, theme) that your teacher will review with you.
4. After you finish reading and journaling, look over your doodle journal and see if there are any doodles you wish to add to or change.

Creating the Doodle Splash

1. Get into a small group with the other students who have read the same short story as you have.
2. Share your journals in the groups and use them to discuss your short story.
3. Decide which doodles from the journals would best tell your story to the rest of the class. Remember, they haven't read your story.
4. Using the paper and markers provided, create your Doodle Splash, artistically and logically arranging your doodles on the paper. Be sure to use dark, bright colors and make the doodles large enough to be seen from a bulletin board or from the wall.
5. Place the title of your short story somewhere on your Doodle Splash.

Presenting and Discussing

1. When the teacher calls on your group, go to the front of the class and present your Doodle Splash, explaining how your chosen doodles tell your story.
2. Be sure that you cover all of the elements of the short story in your presentation, paying special attention to theme.
3. Post your Doodle Splash where your teacher requests.

4. Pay close attention, even take notes, when other groups are presenting their Doodle Splashes.
5. When all Doodle Splashes have been presented and posted, take part in a whole class discussion on the common themes that the author has developed in his or her short stories. Use the notes you took during the group presentations to help you in discussion.
6. If your teacher chooses, your group will write a group essay, comparing and contrasting the themes developed by your author.