



Favorite Book or Series

Grade level: Grade 2

Return to:

NIEW Liaison _____

by (date) _____

Challenge: This contest has two parts. **First**, the student should draw a character or event from a favorite book or series. **Second**, the student should write a brief explanation of why they like that particular book or series. Each child in the class should be free to select his or her own favorite book or series.

Common Core Standards: CC.1.4.2.G Write opinion pieces on familiar topics or texts. CC.1.4.2.H Identify the topic and state an opinion. CC.1.4.2.I Support the opinion with reasons that include details connected to the opinion. CC.1.4.2.K Use a variety of words and phrases to appeal to the audience. CC.1.4.2.L Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of the standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. • Capitalize proper nouns. • Use commas and apostrophes appropriately. • Spell words drawing on common spelling patterns. • Consult reference material as needed.

Please note: Children should write about why they like a specific book or series. A sample layout form is provided. You may duplicate, but are not required to do so. Students work must be no larger than **11 x 17"**. Students who use a computer should use plain white unlined paper.

Notes to the teacher: This information is for teacher use and is NOT part of the contest.

Ask children what books they like best, and why. Are there certain authors whose books they always enjoy? Names that might come to mind are Neil Gaiman and Flat Stanley. Print a list on the chalkboard or show them some books from the school or classroom library as a way of generating interest. Point out that each reader may have different favorites, depending on taste and personal interests. Discuss how one good book can lead a reader to other good books written by the same author. Explain that a series is a group of books all about the same character or group of characters.

Limit: One entry per child.

Preparation of entries: The base surface can be up to **11 x 17 inches** **NO LARGER**. For the sake of reproduction, illustrations should be drawn with dark crayons or felt-tipped markers, if possible. The explanation should be printed down the right side of the paper.

The following information must be provided on the back of each entry: Student's name, age, grade, teacher, school, and the name of the NIEW liaison responsible for handling the contest. Teachers, please check this. Any entry lacking proper identification will be disqualified.

Criteria: General appeal, creativity, and neatness. Judges will evaluate contents and appearance.

Awards: First-place winner will receive a check for \$30; second-place, \$20; third-place, \$10. These three winning entries will be reproduced in the Design-an-Ad supplement in the Tuesday, March 7, issue of The Republican-Herald.

Deadline: Entries must undergo preliminary judging at the school. Top entries must arrive at The Republican-Herald no later than Tuesday, January 10, to allow time for final judging and production work.