

# ***Biography: Cereal Box Book Report Project***

## **Due Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Parents,

The last few weeks in reading class we have been studying the genre of biographies. Some of the different biographies we have read in class are Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Babe Ruth, Wilma Rudolph, Roberto Clemente, Hank Aaron, and Willie Mays to celebrate Black History Month. The students are really enjoying learning about these important figures and how they helped shape our country to be what it is today.

I am asking the students to complete an at-home book report project on a biography book of their choice. The book report project will consist of making a cereal box advertisement for their person. For this you will need an empty cereal box, no smaller than 11.5 oz. Here is the layout for the cereal box:

1. **Front of the box** – A **colored picture of your person**. It can be hand drawn or copied from the book or Internet. The picture should cover a good portion of the box. You will also need to display **the person's name and your name**.

2. **Back of the box** – A **timeline of the person's life**. To help with this part of the project, I have attached a "Biography Timeline" organizer sheet. The students have used this sheet in class before in class. (The students can do this part while they are reading the book.) The timeline should consist of at least ten important events that are varied and span throughout the person's lifetime. The events need to be written in complete sentences giving as much detail as possible. They should be written in sequential order with the appropriate dates they happened on. The dates given can be written as a month, day, and year or month and year or just the year. It all depends on what information the book gives you. The timeline can be hand written or typed on the computer.

3. **Sides and top of the box** - Use the **attached sheet** to help you cover the sides and top of the box. The students should fill in the lines neatly with details about their person. To help with the section where it says "Characteristics", I am also attaching a "Character Traits" sheet that has a list of words the students can choose from to describe their person.

Throughout this past week the students should have picked out a biography book at their reading level for their report. They can be reading their book either at school and/or at home. The book should be read in about 2 weeks.

Another part of the report is a presentation of their person to the class. The presentation will consist of the students sharing their cereal box parts **AND** bringing in **at least 5 artifacts** to school in a bag that represent or have something to do with their person. For example, if your child's person is Michael Jordan, they might want to bring a basketball, Nike shoe or symbol, and a baseball. **For the presentation, the students will need to explain the significance of each item and why they chose it.** Be sure to practice reading the information that is included on the cereal box and sharing the artifacts at home. The students will get a presentation grade on how loudly and clearly they speak! **If your child would like to dress up as the person they read about for the presentation, they can! In the past, many children have done this for the presentation, and it is a lot of fun for them!** The students can wear clothing or accessories that are representative of their character. For example, someone

who reads about Brett Favre may wear a Packer jersey or green and gold clothing. They may even wear a Packer helmet. Have fun and be creative!

**The cereal box is due Monday, March 11th!** We will be **presenting the cereal boxes in class on Monday, March 11th, and Tuesday, March 12th.** The students that have their last name starting with the letters A – M will present on Monday and students with their last names starting with the letters M – Z will present on Tuesday. Attached to this letter you will find the timeline sheet, character traits sheet, cereal box cover sheet, and the rubric that I will be using to grade this project. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND GUIDANCE AT HOME WITH THIS PROJECT!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Clements