**IRB Multicultural Suitcase Project**

Due: Monday, March 19, 2018

**Description of Project:**

This project will help you think about the journey you just took with your multicultural independent reading book. The project asks you to think about the book’s setting and plot.  The final product will be a “packed suitcase” that reflects the trip you took with your character. It will need to include items that describe the character, especially the ways he or she differs from you and your own culture and/or the main character’s different traditions or customs. The objects may be handmade, computer art, stickers, or small objects. You will also need to write an explanation of why each item has been included in the suitcase.

**Materials:**

- Shoe box or a small travel bag

- Construction paper

- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

- Scissors

- Glue sticks

- Stickers (optional)

- Computer art (optional)

**Step-By-Step Directions**

1. Using materials such as construction paper, create a luggage tag that includes your name and the title and author of your book.

2. Use stickers, computer art, or construction paper to create memorabilia to decorate the outside of the suitcase (box), such as bumper stickers or mementos from previous trips.

3. Decide on **five** items that represent your “travels” with the characters. These items may be either tangible (things you can touch…umbrella, hatchet, etc.) or representations of intangible (things you can’t touch…courage, intelligence).

4. Create the five items using construction paper, stickers, computer art, or small objects.

5. Write an explanation of how each item represents the multicultural journey you took while reading the book and show how the item shows a difference between the culture and yours.

* **Note:** You will be expected to present this information during the week of March 19th.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Multicultural Suitcase Project Rubric**

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| **Category** | **Points** | **Score** |
| Outside of ‘suitcase’ is decorated neatly and creatively.  It visually represents the main character’s culture. | **20** |  |
| Luggage tag is included and contains both your name and the book’s title and author. | **5** |  |
| Written explanation of what each item represents and by telling how each item shows a difference between your culture and the main character’s. | **25** |  |
| Explanation of suitcase items is typed. | **5** |  |
| Spelling, capitalization, and punctuation are correct. | **20** |  |
| Student is completely prepared for the presentation (written document, box, and all five items). | **25** |  |
| **Total Points** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/100** | |

**Example:**

1. **Blue, white, red, and orange scarf:** The first three colors are familiar to me, but the orange color is a reminder of the King Willem-Alexander and the continuation of the House of Orange monarchy that still reigns.
2. **A brilliantly colored paper cone filled with *dropje*:** It is a strong, dark licorice that only a few people seemed to like, but, nevertheless, they were a Dutch tradition.
3. **A strange round spatula:**  It reminds me that the Dutch take pride in being thrifty. Pulling every last drop from an empty jar was a virtue to the Dutch.  This spatula is the *proper* tool to do just that!  It makes me think about how wasteful some Americans can be.
4. **A rusty, worn-out bicycle horn:** Traveling *met the fiets* (with the bicycle) to buy my daily groceries is the norm. I find it very charming that the hearty Dutch people travel almost everywhere by bicycle. I don’t know anyone in the United States that does their grocery shopping every day like in they do in Netherlands, yet alone while balancing their children and their groceries on the handlebars.
5. **A tiny bel**l: It reminds me of the huge bells I used to hear every hour from the nearby church steeple. This is such a different sound than the loud car horns I’m used to hearing in the United States.

**Sample Luggage Tag:**

You may use this tag or make one on your own. You may want to use a piece of string to attach the tag to your suitcase or glue it to one of the top flaps.

