

Name _____

Date _____

Learning Contract

The Light in the Forest

During our unit on *The Light in the Forest* you will be responsible for completing the following activities:

Required Activities

1. Read the novel according to the dates shown on the reading schedule.
2. Participate in group discussions. Keep a log of notes during these discussions on the note-taking organizers provided.
3. Develop a timeline that shows the ten most important events from the novel. Write a brief explanation for each justifying why you think it is so significant.

Choice One Activities (choose one of the following):

- Make a chart that compares the ways the Native Americans raise their children to the colonists' approach to raising their children. Use clear examples from the novel.
- Make two scrolls—one for the Native Americans and one for the colonists. On each scroll, show the codes and rules by which the culture lived, made decisions, and governed themselves.

Choice Two Activities (choose one of the following):

- Write a paragraph contrasting the attitudes that Native Americans and white people have about land ownership. Use clear examples from the novel.
- Decide whether you think the Native Americans or the colonists had a better approach to educating their children. Write a persuasive essay defending your position.

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I realize I must work independently and cooperatively during class time and not interrupt others. If necessary, I must also work at home to complete activities by the due dates.

I will be graded using the teacher rubric for each required activity. I will develop or work with a classmate to develop rubrics, to be approved by the teacher, for each of the choice activities that I complete.

Student Signature _____

Teacher Signature _____

Abnormal Psychology Unit: Learning Contract

I. Required activities:

1. Read the chapter on abnormal psychology in our textbook.
2. Skim the DSM-IV manual for basic understanding.
3. Select a specific abnormal psychology disorder to research.
4. Find two appropriate additional resources to read.
5. Write a 1-2 page paper with a general overview of the disorder. Include: theorized causes, symptoms, usual age of onset, suggested treatment, current research directions.
6. Format your paper, including a bibliography, using APA format.

II. Options: Discuss your choice of one of the following with your instructor.

1. Link the disorder you are researching with another disorder. Look for similar characteristics, populations, etc. Discuss implications.
2. Research and report on a rare disorder found in DSM-IV.
3. Link the disorder you are researching to another area of psychology (personality theory, social psychology, biological ramifications, etc.)
4. Research recent findings surrounding a disorder: on-going research or findings not yet in your textbook.
5. Other as negotiated with instructor.

Present your option in one of the following forms:

1. Article for journal in the field of psychology.
2. Article for TIME-like magazine written for the general public.
3. Pamphlet.
4. Post presentation (structured as if at a psychology conference)
5. Other as negotiated with instructor.

I agree to complete both the required activities and the option I have chosen. I agree to ask my teacher if I have questions along the way, knowing that she has agreed to send me in the right direction.

Beginning date: _____

Completion date: _____

Student signature: _____

Teacher signature: _____