



5th Grade Summer Reading Response

Student Name: _____

Complete the projects below for *Blood on the River* by Elisa Carbone. **Bring your responses with your novel to the first day of school**, so we can discuss at the beginning of the school year!

Project #1: The main character in the novel, Samuel Collier, changes throughout the novel *Blood on the River*. To understand Samuel’s changes throughout the novel we keep track or “gather evidence.” Samuel changes from who he is at the beginning of the novel to the character he becomes at the end of the novel after all his early experiences traveling to and living in the New World.

Describe the changes that Samuel experiences during his time traveling to Jamestown and then living with the Namontack people. You may use the example chart below, or you can develop your own. Include at three examples that SHOW who Samuel is at the beginning, in the middle, and then again at the end of the book. Use the word bank to describe Samuel at each stage.

helpful	tough	respectful	hard-working	street-smart	independent
thoughtful	loving	understanding of different cultures	thoughtful about his choices	risk-taker	courageous
angry	seeking knowledge	listener	reactive	hunter	judgmental
honest	determined	adventurous	careful	kind	teacher

Samuel’s development (or change as a character) throughout the novel, <i>Blood on the River</i>		
At the beginning of the novel, in London and on the voyage to the New World	Middle to end of the novel, in Jamestown or the Namontack village.	What is Samuel’s change? How does he show he is different?

Project #2: Research a thriving culture that explorers across the world might have encountered.

Civilizations to choose from: Highlight or star your choice.

Aztec Empire
Maori People of New Zealand
Kingdom of Ancient China
Mesopotamia

Websites to use for mini-research: Highlight or star your choice(s). *Be sure to click on the different topics in these websites; they'll lead you to more interesting information!*

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/history/aztecs/aztec-empire/>

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/history/maori/>

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/history/ancient-china/kingdom-ancient-china/>

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/history/mesopotamia/>

Record facts here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____