

Novel Studies in StudySync

Activity Handout



Novel Studies in Studysync: Activity Handout

Purpose: Explore a Novel Study, connect built-in supports to student needs, and make an informed starting decision for your grade level or course. The goal is to preview, not to build a complete implementation plan.

Guiding Question: How can I use StudySync Novel Studies to support meaningful reading, discussion, and writing experiences for my students?



Explore: Look Beyond the Resource

Select a Novel Study for your grade band. As you explore, capture concise notes below.

Exploration Question	Notes and Evidence
What is included?	
What does it ask students to do?	
How does it support reading, discussion, or writing?	
How does it connect to what comes next?	



Explore More Closely: Match the Support to the Student Need

Match each need with one or more supports from the Novel Study. Explain how the support could help. A support may address more than one need.

Student Need	Novel Study Support(s)	How the Support Could Help
Sustain comprehension across a full-length text		
Develop academic and text-specific vocabulary		
Participate in meaningful, text-based discussion		
Analyze connections across texts		
Write with evidence and develop ideas over time		

Apply: Select and Preview a Novel Study

Directions: Work with a partner or small group. Select a Novel Study, identify its instructional role, and preview the available supports. Focus on making an informed starting decision.

Step 1: Select the Text

Grade level or course: _____

Curriculum unit: _____

Novel Study title: _____

Reason for selecting the text: _____

Intended instructional role:

- ☐ Middle school: supplement or extend Curriculum unit
- ☐ High school: supplement Curriculum unit
- ☐ High school: Novel Study unit pathway

Step 2: Preview the Supports

Capture brief notes as you preview the selected Novel Study.

Preview Focus	What You Notice
Organization of the full-length text	
Reading and vocabulary supports	
Discussion opportunities	
Comparative reading and writing connections	
Assessments or culminating tasks	

Prioritize Two Supports

Which two resources should your group examine more closely before instruction?
Explain why each resource matters for your students.

Priority	Resource	Student Need	Why Examine It More Closely?
1			
2			

Share Your Starting Point

Prepare to share: The text your group selected, its instructional role, one priority support, and the student need that support could address.

Plan: Identify Your Next Step

The Novel Study I want to explore further is: _____

The student need I want to address is: _____

The resource I want to examine more closely is: _____

My next step is: _____

Reminder: Your next step should be specific, manageable, and connected to a student need. Detailed implementation planning is available in the extension activity.