What’s Your Story? Independent Project

Directions: You will participate in many of the same activities the other students are doing, with a few changes. We are asking you to read one of the following stories from the literature book, and try to understand the main character’s perspective. You will then write an I AM poem from this character’s perspective.

Short Story Options: Read the story and then complete a WAGS for your main character.
- Fish Cheeks: page 176
- Rosa Parks: page 276
- The Future in my Arms: page 460

Required Assignments:
- Assignment #3: Where Do We Find Our Stories? (January 22)
  - Write about TWO of the questions.
  - Read example poems
  - Answer THREE questions from the handout about one poem
- Assignment #5: Everyone Has A Story (January 26)
  - Take notes on TWO video clips.
  - Complete the WAGS chart about yourself.
- “The Importance of Telling Our Stories” (January 27)
  - Critically read the article
  - Answer the questions
- “This is Water” (January 29)
  - Pre-Write
  - View Video
  - Critically Read Transcript
  - Answer Close Reading Questions
- Assignment #7: Telling the Story (February 1, 3)
  - Write a draft of your poem using the provided I AM Template
  - Optional: Peer Feedback (you could also ask your teacher, a parent, or a friend for feedback).
  - Add poetic devices to your writing
- Poetic Devices (February 2)
  - Complete Poetic Devices Pre-Assessment
  - Choose THREE poetic devices
  - Complete the assignment: Poetic Devices to Use in Your Writing
- Specificity (February 5)
  - Complete Levels of Abstraction
  - Add specific verbs to your writing
- Specificity and Revision (February 8)
  - Finish specificity writing
  - Share with a partner
  - Add poetic devices to your writing
- Assignment #8: Revising our Writing (February 9)
  - Revise your writing. Be sure to include poetic devices, different line breaks, and try to capture your character’s voice.
- Line Breaks (February 10)
  - Write a paragraph
Read about line breaks
Experiment with line breaks in your writing

Peer Review (February 11)
- Optional: (you could also ask your teacher, a parent, or a friend for feedback).

Assignment #9: The Final Draft (February 16)
- Type a final draft and share it with your teacher.

Assignment #10: The Final Reflection (February 18)
- Answer all questions which pertain to the work you did during this project.

I AM Poem Template

1st Stanza
I am... (two special characteristics you have)
I wonder... (something you are actually curious about)
I hear... (an imaginary/real sound)
I see... (an imaginary/real sight)
I want... (an actual desire)
I am... (the first line of the poem repeated)

2nd Stanza
I pretend... (something you actually pretend to do)
I feel ... (a feeling about something imaginary/real)
I touch... (an imaginary/real touch)
I worry... (something that really bothers you)
I cry... (something that makes you very sad)
I am... (the first line of the poem repeated)

3rd Stanza
I understand... (something that you know is true)
I say... (something you believe in)
I dream... (something you actually dream about)
I try... (something you really make an effort about)
I hope... (something you actually hope for)
I am... (the first line of the poem repeated)