

POST- READING ACTIVITIES AND RESEARCH PROJECT IDEAS

Adapted with permission - [Literature Study Guide for *Grains Of Sand: The Fall Of Neve Dekalim*](#)

➤ LANGUAGE ARTS AND SOCIAL STUDIES

- ✓ Book review
- ✓ Letter to the author
- ✓ Dialogue between two characters in the story after an event in the story
- ✓ Diary entries - Pretend to be a character in the book and write diary entries
- ✓ Pick a chapter and write a new chapter to follow
- ✓ Write a chapter in a different historic period in the Gaza region
- ✓ Inspired by the poem "Grains Of Sand" have the students write a poem meaningful to them
- ✓ Have the students learn about the role of "land" in various cultures and faiths. Compare and contrast the concept of "land ownership" among other cultures such as the Bedouin and Native American Indian
- ✓ Compare and contrast the Israeli government's handling of the 2005 Disengagement Plan with the 1830 US Congressional "Indian Removal Act"
- ✓ Compare and contrast the 2005 Gush Katif uprooting with the 1838 Cherokee Indian's "Trail of Tears"
- ✓ Did the unilateral withdrawal improve the quality of life for either the Israeli citizen or Gazan Arab? Did it bring peace closer to the two populations? Research the current geopolitical situation.

➤ CURRENT EVENTS

- ✓ How much influence can children and adolescents have on their world?
- ✓ Did young people have any chance to change the government's decision in this case?
- ✓ Are there actual examples of youth making an impact on their world?
- ✓ See Literature Study Guide for example links: "Teen campaign initiatives," "American Indian teens write rap music to bring their tribal problems to world attention," "New York's First Youth Congress," "Teens campaign leads to greener city buses," "&"Youth against climate change"

➤ ART

- ✓ Bookmark or poster – featuring a favorite part or a particular event in the story.
- ✓ Cartoon Strip
- ✓ Draw the sequence of events and include dialogue
- ✓ Paper-mache map
- ✓ Have the student include general story information or specific details of a particular event in the story
- ✓ Draw a map e.g., point to K'far Maimon and have student explain the demonstration and its results map
- ✓ Create a timeline of historic regional events in the Gaza region and relate it to the story
- ✓ Make a collage/drawing/painting/photo collection using imagery from a poem in the story or from the story itself. Have the student explain their choice in color, design and how it relates to the story

➤ SCIENCE

- ✓ The novel begins with the poem called "Grains Of Sand". How does sand keep the sea from taking over land mass? Ask students to research the composite of sand via library media center or Internet websites.