COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Dandelion Wine* by Ray Bradbury is represented by the abbreviation DW. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week’s daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the DAY 1, DAY 2, DAY 3, DAY 4 and DAY 5 abbreviations.

Discuss the Elements of Fiction listed below with the student. Each week’s introduction includes the chapters that will be read that week, instructions for literary devices and elements of fiction that the student will encounter during the week, and a written assignment. The chapter study questions, chapter vocabulary and glossary are located in the Junior High Literature Study Question booklets available for purchase from Kolbe Academy. Discuss the literary devices and elements of fiction with the student using the worksheets included with these junior high literature course plans. We suggest reading the weekly written assignment to the student at the beginning of the week. The student should write the assignment down on a note card (to be used as a bookmark) so that he can think about the assignment as he reads. The written assignments are suggested to be completed by the following Monday. As the teacher, be sure to review the final exam now to ensure all concepts are covered with your student as he reads the book.

ELEMENTS OF FICTION:

Throughout the novel, the dandelion wine is an extended metaphor that represents all of Bradbury’s memories of growing up in Waukegan as well as all the events that happen in the novel.

**Point-of-View:** personal—1st person; told from main character’s perspective, Douglas Spaulding, a 12 year old boy who is the oldest of two boys.

**Setting—Place:** Green Town, a small, Midwestern town (based on Bradbury’s hometown, Waukegan, Illinois)

**Theme:** Appreciate life & live life, with no regrets. Also, people and places continue to exist in your mind, even after they are gone; thus, as long as you allow them to live inside you, they never really disappear.

**Selection of Events in Plot:** The plot unfolds chronologically, with some woven-in flashbacks.

**Characters**

- **Leo Auffmann** is the town jeweler, a sensitive dreamer and an amateur inventor, the father of six kids, he invents the Happiness Machine

- **Mr. Sanderson** is the owner of the town’s shoe store, he is an older gentleman, but he seems to understand that young boys need new sneakers and makes a deal with Douglas that he can work-off part of the price of his new shoes

- **Helen Bentley** is a 72 year old woman whose husband has died, she is a “saver,” she tries to convince Tom, Alice, and Jane that she was once a young, pretty girl named Helen, but they don’t believe her so she gives up and becomes Mrs. Bentley forever – pretending she has always been old and never had a first name or a childhood.
Mrs. Elmira Brown: Elmira is a 35 year old woman who is clumsy, nosey, and melodramatic. She has run for the position of the president of the Honeysuckle Ladies Lodge for 10 years and always lost to Clara Goodwater. She believes Clara is a witch and has put a hex on her.

Mrs. Clara Goodwater: Clara is an older lady, obviously well-liked since she has unanimously been voted the president of the Honeysuckle Ladies Lodge for more than 10 years running. She doesn’t care for Elmira’s dramatics and toys with her by pretending to be a witch.

Bill Forrester: Bill is a young man who works for the town newspaper. He boards with the Spauldings. He forms a relationship with Helen Loomis, seeing her as the love he could have had if he had been born earlier or she later.

Helen Loomis: Helen Loomis is a gentle, elderly lady who has traveled the world extensively, but always alone. When she meets Forrester, she meets a kindred spirit and relives her travels by “taking him with her” in their imaginations. She dies in the book.

John Huff: John is Doug’s best friend and Doug idolizes him. One day John tells Doug he is moving and the boys vow to remember each other forever and take a moment to memorize one another.

Mr. Jonas: Mr. Jonas is the town junk man. He is a mysterious fellow who quit a lucrative job and now drives a wagon around town collecting and dispersing used items, and also giving out wisdom.

Aunt Rose rarely visits the Spauldings. She is a loud, large, practical and organized woman. She dares to ask what the ingredients are in Grandma’s cooking and then to rearrange the kitchen, get Grandma new glasses, give her a cookbook, and basically spoil a good system.
Week 1
In the first part of Dandelion Wine, we are introduced to Douglas Spaulding and his family and the small town of Green Town, Illinois. It is the beginning of summer 1928. Douglas and his brother, Tom, set out to chronicle the adventures of summer: all the first-time events, the rituals, and the discoveries. Douglas discovers a sense of being alive, and they begin summer with their traditional rites: picking dandelions for the dandelion wine, new sneakers, putting out the porch swing, beating the winter out of the rugs. The theme of life and an awareness of happiness or loneliness and fear is introduced by Douglas’s revelation that he is alive, by Leo Auffmann and his attempt to build a Happiness Machine, and by the introduction of the Ravine, the wild, untamed section of woods at the edge of town that separates it from the countryside, in which lives The Lonely One, a man who has killed several women in the past years. We are set up to expect that Douglas will have some profound experience before the summer is over.

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<td>DW</td>
<td>Chapter 1 - 6</td>
<td>Have the student look up all the vocabulary words for Chapters 1-16 in the glossary prior to reading. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed. <strong>Literary Devices used this week:</strong> discuss definitions of simile, alliteration, metaphor, personification, repetition, hyperbole, motivation, suspense, contrast, and irony with the student (use literary device worksheet included in the syllabus). Students will encounter questions on these devices in the study question booklet. <strong>Similes</strong> occur in almost every chapter; some are noted in the Study Guide, others are not. As the student reads, he should look for these similes! <strong>Elements of Fiction occurring this week:</strong> discuss the definitions of the setting, inciting event of plot and mood (use elements of fiction worksheet included in the syllabus). Students will encounter these particular elements in their reading this week.</td>
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<td><strong>DAY 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>DW</strong> Introduction, Chapter 1 - 3</td>
<td>Have the student read Introduction, Chapter 1 – 3 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 1. <em>It was a quiet morning.</em> Douglas awakens one morning at the beginning of the summer, 1928. In the third story cupola of his grandparents’ house, he pretends he is the conductor and the town is the orchestra and the people waking up around him in the house and the town are the music he directs. It is his magical rite to begin the first summer day. <strong>Chapter 2. Crossing the lawn that morning.</strong> Douglas knows inexplicably that this day is special. His father takes him and his brother, Tom, to pick fox grapes and wild strawberries. In the woods, surrounded by the sights, smells, sounds, tastes, and touches of the experience, Douglas discovers “I’m really alive! he thought. I never knew it before, or if I did I don’t remember!” (10) <strong>Chapter 3. The town, later in the day.</strong> Tom and Douglas help Grandfather harvest the dandelions for the wine. “Dandelion wine. The words were summer on the tongue. The wine was summer caught and stoppered.” (13) It is the first rite of summer to bottle up summer so that it can be pulled out during long, winter days.</td>
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<td><strong>DAY 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>DW</strong> Chapter 4 - 7</td>
<td>Have the student read Chapters 4 – 7 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 4. <em>You did not hear them coming.</em> Doug and “the boys of summer” run through town. Doug stops to contemplate the Ravine. “The ravine was indeed the place where you came to look at the two things of life, the ways of man and the ways of the natural world.” (17) <strong>Chapter 5. Late that night, going home from the show.</strong> Douglas sees a pair of Cream-Sponge Para Litefoot sneakers in a store window and longs for a new pair for summer. “The magic was always in the new pair of shoes….shoes like these could jump you over trees and rivers and houses. And if you wanted, they could jump you over fences and sidewalks and dogs.” (20) His father sees no reason for replacing last summer’s sneakers so Doug brings the entire content of his piggy bank to Mr. Sanderson’s shoe store and makes a deal that he’ll run errands for him to pay off the remainder. Doug asks Mr. Sanderson to try on the wonderful sneakers and Mr. Sanderson is brought back to the magic of new sneakers and how they made you feel as if your feet were swift as antelopes and gazelles. <strong>Chapter 6. He brought out a yellow nickel tablet.</strong> Doug decides to keep track of summer by writing down all the RITES &amp; CEREMONIES, all the DISCOVERIES &amp; REVELATIONS (ILLUMINATIONS / INTUITIONS). <strong>Chapter 7. Yes, summer was rituals.</strong> It is the third day of summer and time for the porch swing to be put out. Bradbury describes what the evening on the porch is like and how the whole neighborhood experiences it. “Sitting on the summer-night porch was so good, so easy and so reassuring that it could never be done away with.” (31)</td>
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<td>DAY 3</td>
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|      |    | Have the student read Chapters 8 - 11 and answer Study Questions.  
Chapter 8. In front of the United Cigar Store the old men discuss world affairs and their talk of war and death upsets Leo Auffmann, the town jeweler. Grandpa, Doug, and Tom are strolling by on their nightly walk and when Leo gets upset, Grandpa jokingly suggests that Leo build something to fix all our problems and Douglas calls it a Happiness Machine. Being an amateur inventor, Leo takes the suggestion seriously.  
Chapter 9. Watching him cycle the brick streets of evening, Leo cycles home to his wife and six children and eats ice cream in the dusk. He is deep in thought and when he asks his wife, Lena, what she thinks about him building a Happiness Machine, she asks quickly, “Something’s wrong?” (36)  
Chapter 10. Grandfather walked Douglas and Tom home. On their way home, Douglas takes off with two of his friends and Tom goes home and eats ice cream with Mom. Mom grows more nervous as time passes and Douglas is out in the dark. She takes Tom for a walk to the edge of the Ravine, calling Doug’s name. Tom is aware of his mother’s fear and this makes him scared for Doug. It is here that Bradbury tells us of the Lonely One, the man who lives in the Ravine and has killed several women. Just as the tension is becoming unbearable to Tom, Douglas comes running safely out of the Ravine.  
Chapter 11. Late at night on the front porch. Leo Auffmann makes a list of components that must be in the Happiness Machine. |

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<th>DAY 4</th>
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|      |    | Have the student read Chapters 12 – 13 and answer Study Questions.  
Chapter 12. Grandfather smiled in his sleep because he can hear his favorite summer sound that morning – the lawn mower. It’s Bill Forrester, on one of the boarders at Grandpa’s house. He is out mowing the lawn and he has a new kind of grass that never needs cutting. He wants to help out Grandpa and plant some. Grandpa absolutely refuses and pays Forrester to dump this new grass in the Ravine.  
Chapter 13. On Sunday morning, Leo Auffmann moved slowly through his garage. Leo finishes the Happiness Machine even though his wife disapproves. Their son, Saul, sneaks into it at night and comes out shaken and crying. Lena is so upset with Leo that she splits all their possessions in half and gets ready to leave him. To try to stop her and make her understand, Leo puts her in the Happiness Machine. She comes out crying as well because she says it shows all the good things in life that can’t last or that you can’t have. She tells Leo that he forgot that sooner or later, we all have to come back to real life with its unpleasant tasks. When Leo gets into the Happiness Machine to see for himself, it catches on fire and burns to the ground, along with the garage. Lena helps Leo come to understand that he has been overlooking his tried and true, yet not perfect, Happiness Machine – his family. |
Have the student read Chapters 14 – 16 and answer Study Questions.

Chapter 14. Twice a year they brought the big flapping rugs out into the yard and beat the dust out of them and recall all the people and events that tromped over them. Tom says he can see the whole town and life in the rugs. “Thread one way, threads another. I see it all. Dire fiends. Deadly sinners. There’s bad weather, there’s good. Picnics. Banquets. Strawberry Festivals.” (66) **Chapter 15. How it began with the children, old Mrs. Bentley never knew.** Old Helen Bentley invites Tom, Alice, and Jane over for ice cream one day and as they talk it comes out that Alice and Jane do not believe that Mrs. Bentley (Helen) has a first name or was once a young girl like them. She produces keepsakes from her childhood, but they think she stole them from some other girl. Helen feels as if her childhood was gone and nothing could bring it back. Then she remembers her dead husband and how he used to chide her, even then, about how she saved old things and lived in the past. “You’re always trying to be the things you were, instead of the person you are tonight. Why do you save those ticket stubs and theater programs? They’ll only hurt you later. Throw them away, my dear. No matter how hard you try to be what you once were, you can only be what you are here and now.” (75) Helen decides to give some of her girlhood keepsakes to Alice and Jane, to burn the rest, to go by Mrs. Bentley always, to give up trying to convince them she is young, and she now proclaims that she is and always has been 72 years old. **Chapter 16. “You got the nickel tablet ready, Doug?”** Tom is pondering the event with Mrs. Bentley and reports for a DISCOVERY in the tablet “Old people never were children.” (79)

**Written assignment (due Monday):** Discuss the Happiness Machine. Answer these questions: a) What is it that prompts Leo Auffmann to make the Happiness Machine? What is he trying to do? b) What is Lena’s reaction throughout the process? c) What happens to the machine and what does Leo learn?

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**Week 1 Average** | Add up column C & divide by number of included ☑ assignments = % |
As summer proceeds, we meet more of the people in town and see how they impact Douglas. The theme of the cycle of life and its impermanence is prevalent, often symbolized by the machine. Doug and his friends meet Colonel Freeleigh and listen to his stories of far away places and long-ago adventures. They call him the Time Machine. Colonel Freeleigh passes away. We meet Miss Roberta and Miss Fern and their Green Machine. These elderly ladies believe they might have killed someone with their golf-cart-like vehicle and vow never to ride it again. Mr. Tridden, the Trolley Man, takes all the children in town for one last ride on the trolley before it is replaced with buses. Douglas loses his best friend because he must move out of town. Two neighbors in the midst of a squabble suddenly learn to appreciate one another when faced with the possibility of one’s death. Bill Forrester, a young man, and Helen Loomis, an elderly woman, realize the irony of life’s cycle when they meet and develop a friendship which is strangely romantic, only to have it ended by Helen’s death.

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<td>DW</td>
<td>Chapter 17 - 29</td>
<td>Have the student look up all the vocabulary words for Chapters 17-29 in the glossary prior to reading. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed.</td>
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Literary Devices used this week: discuss definitions of alliteration and extended metaphor with the student (use literary device worksheet included in the syllabus). Students will encounter questions on these devices in the study question booklet.

Student Daily Assignments | Parent Daily Guidelines
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DAY 1 DW Chapter 17 - 19 | Have the student read Chapters 17 – 19 and answer Study Questions. Chapter 17. “Seems like the town is full of machines.” Douglas’s friend Charlie takes him and John Huff to listen to Colonel Freeleigh, whom he calls a Time Machine because he tells stories of the past and transports the boys to such places as the plains of the Old West or the Civil War. Chapter 18. Long after midnight Tom woke to find Douglas scribbling in the nickel tablet about Colonel Freeleigh. “That’s the way it is, Tom, I got to spend a lot of time visiting him and listening so I can go far-traveling with him as often as he can…. So when kids come around when you’re real old, you can do for them what the colonel once did for you.” (89) Chapter 19. Bang! A door slammed. Miss Roberta and Miss Fern, two 80 year old spinster sisters who live with their brother, Frank, are hiding in their attic because they think they have killed old Mr. Quartermain with their Green Machine. The Green Machine is like a golf cart and provides the elderly ladies a way around town and a bit of a social life because they give rides to Douglas and the other children and stop to chat on their routes. Their latest hit-and-run incident has scared them and made them rue the day they let the salesman talk them into buying the Green Machine. When Frank comes home, he gives them a message from Douglas, who saw the whole incident, that everything’s okay, but not before they have vowed never to ride it again, to hide it, and tell no one of the accident.
Day 2

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<td><em>Have the student read Chapters 20 – 22 and answer Study Questions.</em></td>
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Chapter 20. The first light on the roof outside. It is the last day the town trolley will run because it's being replaced with buses, so Mr. Tridden, the Trolley Man, is giving all the children a free ride. He takes them out as far as the tracks go, even the part into the countryside that has been unused for 20 years. They have a picnic and return. Doug and Tom are upset the trolley will be gone, but Doug feels he will always remember the trolley’s sound and look. Chapter 21. The facts about John Huff. John Huff is Doug’s best friend. On this day he tells Doug that he is moving out of town and leaving that night. They spend the day trying to make time slow down so they can enjoy each other’s company one last day. They promise never to forget each other down to the smallest detail. Chapter 22. “Tom,” said Douglas, “just promise me one thing, okay?” Obviously upset by John Huff’s move, Douglas makes Tom promise that he’ll stick around and not fall off a cliff or let any cars run him over.

Day 3

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<td><em>Have the student read Chapters 23 – 24 and answer Study Questions.</em></td>
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Chapter 23. She came out of the bathroom putting iodine on her finger. Elmira Brown is a naturally clumsy woman and a bit of a busy-body. Her husband, a mail man, tells her about a book their neighbor received on witchcraft. Elmira confronts the neighbor, Clara Goodwater, accusing her of using witchcraft to get elected as the president of the Honeysuckle Ladies Lodge, a position she herself has tried to get for 10 years. Elmira further blames Clara for putting a hex on her to make her accident prone. Clara, usually amused by Elmira’s commotions and calamities, decides to antagonize Elmira and to play along as a witch. That night, Elmira concocts a magic potion of her own to counteract Clara’s supposed black magic. The next day she brings her foul potion to the election at the Ladies Lodge, fully believing it will bring about her election as president. She brings Tom with her as mascot of innocence for the white magic. Just as Clara is voted president again, Elmira becomes ill from drinking her potion, runs out of the room, and falls down 40 stairs. Clara and the ladies of the Honeysuckle Lodge are so upset and fearful that Elmira will die, that amongst tears and pleadings, they promise to elect her president. Elmira comes out of her fall without a broken bone, only bruised from head to toe. Chapter 24. “For what it’s worth,” said Tom, “there’s the whole thing in a nutshell.” Tom is telling Douglas about the crazy story of Elmira and Clara that he witnessed.
### DAY 4

**DW**

**Chapter 25 - 27**

- Have the student read Chapters 25 - 27 and answer Study Questions.

**Chapter 25.** And then there is that day that Colonel Freeleigh has been confined to his room by the doctor and told not to excite himself because his heart cannot take the pressure. He is to have no visitors, so the boys cannot come listen to him. The colonel, in his boredom, has taken to making phone calls across the world to old friends so he can listen to the sounds of the places he has lived. In the midst of a call to Mexico City the nurse comes to take his pulse. She finds he is too excited and tells him his phone will be taken away the next day. Colonel Freeleigh objects, saying it is the only thing that makes him feel alive and it’s worth killing yourself to feel so alive again. When the nurse leaves, he calls Mexico one last time. Doug and the boys sneak in to visit and find him this way, phone in hand, cold and still.

**Chapter 26.** “Boom!” said Tom. Doug and Tom are playing on the Civil War cannon in the courthouse square. Doug marvels that along with Colonel Freeleigh’s death was the death all the people in his stories. Tom suggests he should write them all down in the notebook so he doesn’t forget.

### DAY 5

**DW**

**Chapter 28 - 29**

- Have the student read Chapters 28 - 29 and answer Study Questions.

**Chapter 28.** And out there in the middle of the first day of August, Bill Forrester, the journalist who boards with the Spauldings, takes Doug for ice cream and in the ice cream parlor they meet Helen Loomis. Helen and Bill strike up a friendship, and though Helen is 95 years old and Bill is 31, they feel such a strong connection that it is almost as if time has played a trick on them and they should have met when they were both the same age. Bill spends the weeks of August visiting with Helen and reliving her memories of all the places she has traveled alone. Helen passes away at the end of August.

**Chapter 29.** Douglas and Tom and Charlie are on their way to the Ice House to find a piece of the forgotten winter. As they walk, Tom and Douglas discuss happy endings and how it’s a shame that old Helen Loomis and Bill Forrester couldn’t have had a happy ending. When they reach the Ice House, Charlie scares Tom by saying the Lonely One lives there and then dropping a piece of ice down his back to make him scream.

**Written Assignment (due Monday):** Tell about some of the other machines in the story. What do these machines represent? Are they symbolic for some meaning in life?

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### Week 2 Grade Book

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**Week 2 Average**: Add up column C & divide by number of included ✓ assignments = %
WEEK 3

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<td>DW</td>
<td>Chapter 30 - 40</td>
<td>Have the student look up all the vocabulary words for Chapters 30-40 in the glossary prior to reading. Study questions may be completed as the student reads or at the end of the week when reading has been completed. <strong>Literary Devices used this week:</strong> discuss definitions of circular story, repetition, contrast, foreshadowing, flashback, metaphor, simile, allusion, and extended metaphor with the student (use literary device worksheet included in the syllabus). Students will encounter questions on these devices in the study question booklet. <strong>Elements of Fiction occurring this week:</strong> discuss the definitions of the climax, resolution, and selection of events in plot, theme, genre, and dynamic character (use elements of fiction worksheet included in the syllabus). Students will encounter these particular elements in their reading this week.</td>
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**Notes**

**Student Daily Assignments**

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<td>Chapter 30</td>
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Have the student read Chapter 30 and answer Study Questions. **The courthouse clock chimed seven times.** Miss Lavinia Nebbs and her friend Francine are on their way to the cinema. As they cross through the ravine, they stumble across the dead body of a missing girl. The Lonely One has struck again. Francine wants to go home and lock her door, but Lavinia convinces her that they need to go to the movie to forget the horrible scene. They walk to get their friend Helen. Before the movie they stop at the drug store for candy and the druggist tells Lavinia that a stranger was at the counter earlier and asked about her and he accidentally told her where she lived. Though the other girls are frightened, Lavinia does not seem bothered. After the movie, she walks her friends home so that she is left to walk alone again across the ravine to her home. As she passes through the ravine she thinks she hears someone following her. She grows panicky at last and runs home and locks the door. Just as she is about to turn on the light, she hears someone clear his throat behind her in the living room. **Literary Device:** **Circular Story:** Towards the end of the chapter, Lavinia is back where she started, drinking a glass of lemonade—a classic, positive image of summertime. **Literary Device:** **Contrast; Repetition; Foreshadowing:** Throughout this chapter, the author contrasts white with dark. Examples: (1) vanilla white moon rising from the dark east (2) holding a glass in her white fingers,…dressed in snow white, calling back through the soft ocean of dark (3) stranger’s white face flickering…in the theater’s darkness (4) black and white avenues lay ahead...
### DAY 2

| DW Chapter 31 - 33 | Have the student read Chapters 31 – 33 and answer Study Questions.  
**Chapter 31.** “Good grief, they ruin everything!” We find out that Lavinia stabbed the intruder, apparently the Lonely One, with a pair of sewing scissors and killed him. Charlie is upset because now that the Lonely One is dead, the rest of August will be boring and without thrills. Tom convinces Charlie and Doug that the man Lavinia killed couldn’t be the Lonely One because he didn’t look scary enough and he must still be alive. Meanwhile Doug is somewhat in shock and keeps repeating that he was *there last night,* in the ravine and outside Lavinia’s house.  
**Chapter 32.** *She was a woman with a broom.* Great Grandma Spaulding dies one summer day. She quietly takes herself off to bed and the family gathers around her as she imparts her last words to them. She tells them she has had a happy life and its time for her to go, not to grieve, and to let her memory live on in them.  
**Chapter 33.** “A ghost!” cried Tom. Doug brings a mason jar of fireflies to his room so he won’t get caught staying up late to write in his tablet. He is summing up his DISCOVERIES; and his frightening, awesome conclusion, especially after Great Grandma’s death, is that he, too, must someday die. |

### DAY 3

| DW Chapter 34 - 35 | Have the student read Chapters 34 -35 and answer Study Questions.  
**Chapter 34.** *There she sat in her glass coffin.* Doug and Tom are trying to get the Tarot Witch arcade machine to give them a fortune, but she seems broken. Doug is frantic to make her work and finally gets a fortune. When they try for a second one, the card comes out blank. Doug is very upset by this, especially because he is traumatized by the idea of death and the uncertainty and unreliability of life. “Here in the world of people you might give time, money, and prayer with little or no return.” He wants to rely on the stability of the arcade world. “In the arcade, then, you did this and this, and that and that occurred.” (193) Doug decides the witch is really a live woman trapped by a spell and put into wax. He “rescues” her from the drunk arcade owner, who pursues him and Tom and throws her in the town trash heap in the ravine. Doug’s father helps them carry her home and sets her up at her own tarot reading table in the garage.  
**Chapter 35.** *Faintly the voice chanted.* Tom is counting the buzz of the cicadas and has a mathematical formula to derive the temperature from them. He and Doug argue about the accuracy, but by the end of the argument, Douglas is beginning to feel light-headed. |
### DAY 4

**DW**  
**Chapter 36 - 38**

- **Have the student read Chapters 36 – 38 and answer Study Questions.**
- **Chapter 36. From noontime to sundown, from midnight to sunrise.** Mr. Jonas is the town junk man. He is a mysterious fellow who quit a lucrative job and now drives a wagon around town collecting and dispersing used items, and also giving out wisdom. **Literary Concept: Allusion:** Manila Bay is an allusion to the Battle of Manila Bay (in the Philippines) on May 1, 1898 which occurred during the United States’ war with Spain over Cuba. **Chapter 37. The sidewalks were haunted by dust ghosts all night.** Doug becomes very sick with a scorching fever and the doctor and family fear he will die. Tom confides in Mr. Jonas that Doug is dying because he’s had such an upsetting summer and it’s too hot and asks Mr. Jonas to find something in his wagon to help. Mr. Jonas brings two bottles of a mysterious substance for Doug to drink and he recovers. **Element of Fiction:** Climax- This situation begins the novel’s climax; Doug is dangerously ill and the reader does not know whether he will survive. **Chapter 38: The next morning was a morning of no caterpillars.** The caterpillars disappear. The cicadas stop buzzing. Summer rain begins.

### DAY 5

**DW**  
**Chapter 39 - 40**  
**Written Assignment**

- **Have the student read Chapters 39 – 40 and answer Study Questions.**
- **Chapter 39. There was a great flurry of arrival.** Aunt Rose comes for a visit. She is amazed that Grandma can cook such delicious meals with such a messy, disorganized kitchen, so she convinces Grandma to organize it and use a cookbook. That night the meal is horrible. Grandpa, Doug, and the boarders in the house band together and send Aunt Rose back home. But it isn’t until Doug sneaks down to the kitchen in the middle of the night and messes up the kitchen again that Grandma’s cooking returns to its usual luscious quality. **Chapter 40. And then quite suddenly summer was over.** School supplies appear in the window of the dimestore, the last dandelions are picked, the porch swing gets put away, and Douglas spends his last night in the cupola above Grandma and Grandpa. **Conflict:** Man vs. Himself (Internal); Douglas vs. Living--coping with his newfound sensitivity to the world [Douglas has to learn how to live, both physically & “mentally”]. **Resolution:** Douglas matures and survives, learning to take life a little less intensely. **Written Assignment:** What is the role of The Lonely One in the novel? Take into account both his factual existence and the mythical being he is to the boys.

### Week 3 Grade Book

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WEEK 4

**Book** | **Weekly Breakdown** | **Goals and Notes for the Week**
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DW | Book Report | **Book Report and Final Exam.** This week’s main focus should be on composition. The student should focus on the writing and perfecting of the book report; more than one draft may be necessary. This assignment can be applied to the composition grade. Please see the syllabus portion of the Literature course for guidance on writing a book report appropriate for 7th or 8th grade.
Review | Final Exam |

**Student Daily Assignments** | **Parent Daily Guidelines**
--- | ---
**DAY 1** | **DW** Book Report | The student should work on his book report.
**DAY 2** | **DW** Book Report | Review your student’s report to make sure everything he has written supports his thesis statement, and the entire paper has a gentle flow from one supported idea to the next. Check for spelling, grammar, and punctuation errors.
**DAY 3** | **DW** Book Report | The student should rewrite the final draft book report neatly if the he is writing it in long hand.
**DAY 4** | **DW** Review | Encourage the student to go over the study questions, vocabulary, character lists, and other notes he has taken while reading the book in order to prepare for the final exam. If you did not do so upon starting this book, be sure to review the exam ahead of time to ensure all concepts are covered with the student.
**DAY 5** | **DW** Final Exam | Administer the final exam to the student.

**Week 4 Grade Book**

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WEEK 1:

**Written Assignment:** Discuss the Happiness Machine. Answer these questions:  
a) What is it that prompts Leo Auffmann to make the Happiness Machine? What is he trying to do?  
b) What is Lena’s reaction throughout the process?  
c) What happens to the machine and what does Leo learn?

**a)** Chapter 8, p 33-34: the discussion among the old men in front of the cigar store about the horrors of the world, war, and death – the bad things in life; this upsets the sensitive Leo. Grandpa jokes he should make something to fix the problems and Douglas says he should build a Happiness Machine. Leo notes that machines have so far been used to make us cry, even when they were intended for good (rather ironic). But he says Doug is not wrong to ask for this and he ponders, “What can I lose?” He sets out to make a machine that would give us all the good parts of life, every moment that we savor, every thing that makes a child laugh, all the dream places we want to go, all the beauty of the world in one place.

**b)** Lena’s reaction is to ask Leo what is wrong with life right now. She is of the opinion that you shouldn’t fix things that aren’t broken. “That machine…we don’t need it.” (46) She tells Leo not to question life so much. “Don’t ask. A man who thinks like that, how it runs, how things work, falls off the trapeze in the circus, chokes wondering how the muscles work in the throat. Eat, sleep, breathe, Leo…” (54) She is upset at Leo for neglecting his family while he is obsessed with the machine and for causing their son, Saul, to have nightmares from being in the machine. When Lena gets in the Happiness Machine, she comes out crying. She tells Leo that he forgot that sooner or later we have to come out of the machine and back to real life, which isn’t perfect. “So two things you did you should never have. You made quick things go slow and stay around. You brought things faraway to our backyard where they don’t belong, where they just tell you, ‘No, you’ll never travel, Lena Auffmann, Paris you’ll never see! Rome you’ll never visit.’ But I always knew that, so why tell me? Better to forget and make do, Leo, make do, eh?” (61)

**c)** Everyone who gets in the Happiness Machine actually comes out sad and in the case of Saul, very deeply disturbed. Leo inadvertently made a machine to make people cry, just as he complained about earlier in front of the cigar shop. The machine burns up and burns the garage down with it.

Through this disaster, Leo learns that he has been a fool to overlook the happiness right in front of his face. “The first thing you learn in life is you’re a fool. The last thing you learn in life is you’re the same fool.” (62) Leo leads Grandpa and Douglas up to the window looking into his house and asks them to witness his happiness. “You want to see the real Happiness Machine? The one they patented a couple thousand years ago, it still runs, not good all the time, no! but it runs. It’s been here all along.” It is his family.

WEEK 2:

**Written Assignment:** Tell about some of the other machines in the story. What do these machines represent? Are they symbolic for some meaning in life? Answers may include:

1. Colonel Freeleigh: the boys call him a Time Machine because his stories of the Civil War and the Old Western Frontier and other far away places and times transport them; his age allows him a special awe in their eyes; Doug realizes he must write down what the Colonel says so he, too, when he is older will
remember to do the same thing for young kids. Colonel Freeleigh symbolizes the fleetingness of youth. He passes away listening to the sounds of his past on the phone.

2. The Green Machine: Miss Roberta and Miss Fern bought the golf-cart-like machine so they could gracefully tool about town visiting with friends and doing errands. It is one of their favorite pastimes. When they accidentally hit Mr. Quartermain and do not stop, they believe they have killed him. They vow never to use the machine again and lock it up in the garage. The Green Machine symbolizes those things in life which don’t last, phases which must pass.

3. The Trolley: The trolley is being replaced with buses because it’s time is over and a new machine is taking its place. Mr. Tridden gives all the children their last ride into the countryside for a picnic. Doug knows deep-down that he will always remember the sounds, feel and sight of the trolley. It is similar to what he feels when he finds out John Huff is moving away. A treasure in his life is leaving, but it has left an indelible imprint on his memory.

The overall symbolism of the machines is that they don’t last: they run down, get old, get replaced. It is similar to many things in life: people get old, get run down, die; friendships end, summer passes. As Douglas says, “August up ahead… Sure. But the way things are going, there’ll be no machines, no friends, and darn few dandelions for the last harvest.” (139)

WEEK 3:
Written Assignment: What is the role of The Lonely One in the novel?
Answers will vary but may include:

1. The Lonely One is a real man, a stalker and murderer. He brings danger to the otherwise small and safe town. He reminds mothers to watch their children closely, as the night that Doug’s mother searches frantically for him.

2. The Lonely One provides not only real danger, but is also somewhat of a town legend and a source of excitement and gossip. The adults gossip and guess about him. The young ladies test their bravado against the danger of walking at night near the Ravine. Lavinia, Francine, and Helen try to stand up to the fear, but in the end only Lavinia is brave and careless enough to walk alone through town at midnight. She faces the ultimate test when she is confronted with the Lonely One in her own home and stabs him with sewing scissors.

3. The Lonely One is also a legend for the young boys. They refuse to believe he has been killed by Lavinia. As they get a glimpse of the body, they think that such a harmless looking man could not possibly be the Lonely One. He has become for them the symbol of evil in this world and they need that symbol to remain for the world to make sense. So they let Tom convince them that The Lonely One is not dead, after all.
Part I: Identify. Give a description of each of the characters. (3 points each)

1. Leo Auffmann
2. Mr. Sanderson
3. Mrs. Bentley
4. Mrs. Elmira Brown
5. Mrs. Clara Goodwater
6. Bill Forrester
7. Helen Loomis
8. John Huff
9. Mr. Jonas
10. Aunt Rose

Part II: Short Answer. Answer in complete Sentence. (10 points each)

1. Put the following into context and comment on the content in relation to the story:
   YOU CAN’T DEPEND ON PEOPLE BECAUSE…
   …they go away.
   …strangers die.
   …people you know fairly well die.
   …friends die
   …people murder people, like in books.
   …your own folks can die.

2. Explain the following: a. The Happy Machine; b. The Time Machine; and c. The Green Machine.

3. Name the speaker and the person spoken to in the following quotes:
   a. “You may be my brother and maybe I hate you sometimes but stick around, all right?”
   b. “A common flower, a weed…but for us a noble thing, the dandelion.”
   c. “The reason why grownups and kids fight is because they belong to different races.”
   d. “I don’t mind being old-not really-but I do resent my childhood being taken away from me.”
   e. “They bruise easier, tire faster, cry quicker, remember longer, and as I say, get sadder younger than anyone else in the world.”

4. Explain the title Dandelion Wine.

Part III: Essay. This should be a minimum of three paragraphs with examples or quotes from the text to support your answer. (30 points)

What does Douglas learn about life in Dandelion Wine?
Part I: Identify. Give a description of each of the characters. (3 points each)

1. **Leo Auffmann** is the town jeweler, a sensitive dreamer and an amateur inventor, the father of six kids, he invents the Happiness Machine.

2. **Mr. Sanderson** is the owner of the town’s shoe store, he is an older gentleman, but he seems to understand that young boys need new sneakers and makes a deal with Douglas that he can work-off part of the price of his new shoes.

3. **Helen Bentley** is a 72 year old woman whose husband has died, she is a “saver,” she tries to convince Tom, Alice, and Jane that she was once a young, pretty girl named Helen, but they don’t believe her so she gives up and becomes Mrs. Bentley forever – pretending she has always been old and never had a first name or a childhood.

4. **Mrs. Elmira Brown**: Elmira is a 35 year old woman who is clumsy, nosey, and melodramatic. She has run for the position of the president of the Honeysuckle Ladies Lodge for 10 years and always lost to Clara Goodwater. She believes Clara is a witch and has put a hex on her.

5. **Mrs. Clara Goodwater**: Clara is an older lady, obviously well-liked since she has unanimously been voted the president of the Honeysuckle Ladies Lodge for more than 10 years running. She doesn’t care for Elmira’s dramas and toys with her by pretending to be a witch.

6. **Bill Forrester**: Bill is a young man who works for the town newspaper. He boards with the Spauldings. He forms a relationship with Helen Loomis, seeing her as the love he could have had if he had been born earlier or she later.

7. **Helen Loomis**: Helen Loomis is a gentle, elderly lady who has traveled the world extensively, but always alone. When she meets Forrester, she meets a kindred spirit and relives her travels by “taking him with her” in their imaginations. Her character dies.

8. **John Huff**: John is Doug’s best friend and Doug idolizes him. One day John tells Doug he is moving and the boys vow to remember each other forever and take a moment to memorize one another.

9. **Mr. Jonas**: Mr. Jonas is the town junk man. He is a mysterious fellow who quit a lucrative job and now drives a wagon around town collecting and dispersing used items, and also giving out wisdom.

10. **Aunt Rose** rarely visits the Spauldings. She is a loud, large, practical and organized woman. She dares to ask what the ingredients are in Grandma’s cooking and then to rearrange the kitchen, get Grandma new glasses, give her a cookbook, and basically spoil a good system.

Part II: Short Answer. Answer in complete sentence. (10 points each)

1. Put the following into context and comment on the content in relation to the story:

   After Great-grandma’s death – towards end of summer in August. There have been a few deaths and Doug is deeply affected -- leads him to write the following:

   YOU CAN’T DEPEND ON PEOPLE BECAUSE...
   
   ...they go away. John Huff – hates him at end says doesn’t.
   
   ...strangers die.
   
   ...people you know fairly well die. Helen Loomis
   
   ...friends die. Colonel Freeleigh
   
   ...people murder people, like in books. Elizabeth Russell and the Lonely One, LAvinia – Charlie says it won’t be the same now; it will be boring in Green TOWN at night. Doug deep in his own thoughts.
   
   ...your own folks can die. Great-grandma. – thought she would live forever.

2. Explain the following:
a. **The Happy Machine:** Leo sets out to make a machine that would give us all the good parts of life, every moment that we savor, every thing that makes a child laugh, all the dream places we want to go, all the beauty of the world in one place. Everyone who gets in the Happiness Machine actually comes out sad and in the case of Saul, very deeply disturbed. Leo inadvertently made a machine to make people cry, just as he complained about earlier in front of the cigar shop. The machine burns up and burns the garage down with it. Through this disaster, Leo learns that he has been a fool to overlook the happiness right in front of his face.

b. **The Time Machine:** Colonel Freeleigh: the boys call him a Time Machine because his stories of the Civil War and the Old Western Frontier and other faraway places and times transport them; his age allows him a special awe in their eyes; Doug realizes he must write down what the Colonel says so he, too, when he is older will remember to do the same thing for young kids. Colonel Freeleigh symbolizes the fleetingness of youth. He passes away listening to the sounds of his past on the phone.

c. **The Green Machine:** Miss Roberta and Miss Fern bought the golf-cart-like machine so they could gracefully tool about town visiting with friends and doing errands. It is one of their favorite pastimes. When they accidentally hit Mr. Quartermain and do not stop, they believe they have killed him. They vow never to use the machine again and lock it up in the garage. The Green Machine symbolizes those things in life which don't last, phases which must pass.

3. Name the speaker and the person spoken to in the following quotes:
   a. “You may be my brother and maybe I hate you sometimes but stick around, all right?”
      Doug to Tom
   b. “A common flower, a weed…but for us a noble thing, the dandelion.”
      Grandfather to Doug and Tom
   c. “The reason why grownups and kids fight is because they belong to different races.”
      Tom to Doug
   d. “I don’t mind being old—not really—but I do resent my childhood being taken away from me.”
      Mrs Bentley to teacup
   e. “They bruise easier, tire faster, cry quicker, remember longer, and as I say, get sadder younger than anyone else in the world.”
      Mr. Jonas to Doug

4. Explain the title *Dandelion Wine*. Answers will vary. Some points to look for:
   - It’s a book about a boy’s summer experiences. Throughout summer they pick and bottle dandelion wine. The words were summer on the tongue.
   - The wine was summer caught and stopped
   - “…it was only right and proper that some of his new knowledge, some of this special vintage day would be sealed away for opening on a January day.”
   - Numbered from one to ninety-odd, there the ketchup bottles, most of them full now, stood burning in the cellar twilight, one for every living summer day.
   - People die, friends go away, summer over, but have dandelion wine to open when need to feel sun in winter etc,
   - For grandfather – is special
Part III: Essay. This should be a minimum of three paragraphs, with examples or quotes from the text to support your answer. (30 points)

What does Douglas learn about life in Dandelion Wine?

Answer will vary but could include:

1. He learns what it means to be alive. In the beginning of the book he has the discovery that he is alive. His senses are alive. He is looking, seeing, hearing, smelling, and feeling deeply for what seems the first time to him. He truly experiences friendship and its loss. He learns that happiness cannot be bottled in a machine. He learns to appreciate history through Colonel Freeleigh. He learns fear and how close tragedy can strike to your own home when he is just outside Lavinia’s house when she kills the Lonely One.

2. Doug also learns that life is precious and fleeting. He encounters the death of Colonel Freeleigh, Helen Loomis, The Lonely One, and Great Grandma Spaulding. He works himself into a frenzy imagining that the Tarot Witch is a real woman trapped in an arcade game and not allowed to live out her enchanted life. Doug grows weary and depressed thinking about death, or as Mr. Jonas says, “Some people turn sad awfully young. No special reason it seems, but they seem almost to be born that way. They bruise easier, tire faster, cry quicker, remember longer and, as I say, get sadder younger than anyone else in the world.” Doug has a near encounter with his own death.