When You Reach Me, the Newbery Medal Award winning children’s novel by Rebecca Stead, follows protagonist Miranda as she navigates friendships, loss and adolescence. As you know from the novel, the “notes” Miranda receives play a pivotal role as the plot unfolds.

**Directions:**

1. Think about the use of the mailbox and delivery of letters in *When You Reach Me* and watch the video “How the Post Office Made America” to offer some insight about the history of the U.S. Postal Service.
2. Using the template provided or some suggestions linked here and here, create or draw a mailbox and include elements that represent you (be creative in the display).
3. Write a letter that includes a message 8-10 sentences in length describing a personal experience. Connect that experience to a noteworthy scene/event/character from *When You Reach Me*. Bring the letter to class, so we can finalize the details together.
Mailbox Template:

LIFESJOURNEYTOPERFECTION.NET

Back

Front Flap

- Fold-

Glue

Handle

Also cut:
- 9x5.5" rectangle
- Score tab on each end of long sides.
- 3"x5.5" base