Lord of the Flies

Storyboarding Simon's Death A Close-Reading Strategy

Directions: As you read the excerpt below, underline words or phrases for each paragraph that you think are the most important images within that paragraph. Then, you will draw those images with the word or phrase that you feel is the MOST IMPORTANT at the center of the image. Each drawing should include as many details with words directly from the text within the image. Have fun!!!

Simon's Death Scene

The sticks fell and the mouth of the new circle crunched and screamed. The beast was on its knees in the center, its arms folded over its face. It was crying out against the abominable noise something about a body on the hill. The beast struggled forward, broke the ring and fell over the steep edge of the rock to the sand by the water. At once the crowd surged after it, poured down the rock, leapt on to the beast, screamed, struck, bit, tore. There were no words, and no movements but the tearing of teeth and claws.

Then the clouds opened and let down the rain like a waterfall. The water bounded from the mountain-top, tore leaves and branches from the trees, poured like a cold shower over the struggling heap on the sand. Presently the heap broke up and figures staggered away. Only the beast lay still, a few yards from the sea. Even in the rain they could see how small a beast it was; and already its blood was staining the sand.

Now a great wind blew the rain sideways, cascading the water from the forest trees. On the mountain-top the parachute filled and moved; the figure slid, rose to its feet, spun, swayed down through a vastness of wet air and trod with ungainly feet the tops of the high trees; falling, still falling, it sand toward the beach and the boys rushed screaming into the darkness. The parachute took the figure forward, furrowing the lagoon, and bumped it over the reef and out to sea.

Now begin drawing your own interpretation of the scene. You must have:

- 3 different images, one for each paragraph
- a word or phrase that is the central idea for that paragraph (in each drawing)
- details with specific words from the text written next to or as part of the detail you are drawing (in each drawing)
- Drawings, while they don't have to be perfect, must have some effort included in them and you must use your creativity to show your understanding of this passage.