



**Summer Reading Requirements
Middle School
Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades
2018-2019**

A guide for students entering the 6th through the 8th grades

Reading proficiency and comprehension is essential to meeting the goals and expectations of the Literature and Humanities classes. We want to encourage our students to be lifelong readers and learners. The literature assigned during the school year must take into account the rigour of the academic and extracurricular schedules.

Use the guidelines below to respond to your summer reading books.

You are required to read three (3) books over the summer. Two books must be chosen from the required list and the third can be chosen from the additional list for each grade level.

6th Grade Required	7th Grade Regular Required	8th Grade Regular Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> by Wilson Rawls ● <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> by Mark Twain ● <i>Dacey's Song</i> by Cynthia Voigt ● <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i> by Paul Curtis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Crossing</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>Diary of a Young Girl</i> by Anne Frank ● <i>Roll of Thunder Hear my Cry</i> by Mildred D. Taylor
	7th Grade Honors Required	8th Grade Honors Required
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Summer of My German Soldier</i> by Bette Greene ● <i>Sea Wolf</i> by Jack London ● <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> by Jules Verne 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Oliver Twist</i>, by Charles Dickens ● <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen ● <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London
Additional Books for 6th	Additional Books for 7th	Additional Books for 8th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i>, Jules Verne ● <i>The Martian Chronicles</i>, Ray Bradbury ● <i>The Yearling</i>, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings ● <i>Treasure Island</i>, Robert Louis Stevenson ● <i>The Black Pearl</i>, Scott O'Dell ● <i>The Cay</i>, Theodore Taylor ● <i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>, Douglas Adams ● <i>The Invisible Man</i>, H.G. Wells ● <i>The Prince and the Pauper</i>, Mark Twain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i>, Jules Verne ● <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>, Mark Twain ● <i>Silent Night</i>, Stanley Weintraub ● <i>Swimming to Antarctica</i>, Lynne Cox ● <i>Sea Wolf</i>, Jack London ● <i>The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i>, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle ● <i>Little Women</i>, Louisa May Alcott ● <i>David Copperfield</i>, Charles Dickens ● <i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>, Elizabeth George Speare ● <i>Jacob Have I Loved</i>, Katherine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Miracle Worker</i>, Williams Gibson ● <i>The Musician's Daughter</i>, Susanne Dunlap ● <i>Enemy Brothers</i>, Constance Savery ● <i>Lord of the Flies</i>, William Golding ● <i>The Hiding Place</i>, Corrie Ten Boom ● <i>War of the Worlds</i>, H.G. Wells ● <i>Red Badge of Courage</i>, Stephen Crane ● <i>Oliver Twist</i>, by Charles Dickens ● <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Christy</i>, Catherine Marshall 	Paterson	London <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Roll of Thunder Hear my Cry</i> by Mildred D. Taylor
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Writing Assignment and Response Guidelines

The writing assignments and responses are below. You will complete three assignments that will be due on the 5th day of class. Each novel will be represented in three different assignments; (1) Response Paper, (2) Illustrated Timeline, and (3) a Book Jacket.

1. **Response Paper:** Choose one book in which to respond in writing. Follow the *Response Paper Format* section when completing your paper. These questions serve as a guide for the journey through the texts, as well as for class discussions. Students should write their responses as they read or immediately after they read the texts during the summer.
2. **Illustrated Timeline:** Complete one illustrated timeline for your second novel. You must illustrate 10 different scenes from the book. Your illustrations must be in the proper order of the book. You should also show the character and events of importance throughout your story. Illustrations should be in color; no stick figures will be accepted. Remember, your project must include plot events, character descriptions, and themes from your book.
3. **Book Jacket:** Complete one book jacket for your third novel. This must be your own design on legal size paper (do not duplicate the original book jacket). Your project must include plot, events, character description and themes from your book. Create a colorful, engaging book jacket that includes the following:
 - **Cover:** new cover for the book with illustration, title, author, and student name.
 - **Inner Flap:** (Left Side) Summarize the key events from the reading. Discuss the major characters and personalities.
 - **Inner Flap:** (Right Side) Describe one text connection (text to text, text to self, or text to the world).
 - **Back Cover:** Describe the theme of the novel. Make sure to support your description with specific examples from the story.

You may choose to write a Response Paper in lieu of completing a Timeline or Book Jacket. An additional Timeline or Book Jacket may NOT be done in lieu of completing the required Response Paper.

Note: Do not use Cliffsnotes, Sparknotes, Shmoop, movies, abridged versions, or any other substitute/aid materials.

Writing Assignment Guidelines

The first writing assignment of the year will be a response paper over the summer reading. Listed below are the questions to use for writing your response paper, which will be due on the fifth (5th) day the class meets. These questions serve as a guide for the journey through the texts, as well as for class discussions. Students should write their responses as they read or immediately after they read the texts during the summer.

Response Paper Format: Each student will read three (3) books over the summer. There are four questions listed below to help you format the papers. Students should have an introduction and conclusion for each paper. Each response should be one paragraph. Open each paragraph with a topic sentence. Support the topic sentence with examples and analysis, and conclude the paragraph with a summary sentence. The paper will be a total of 6 paragraphs.

Papers must be typed in 12 pt., Arial or Times New Roman font, and double spaced.

Questions:	Explanation:
What is the book about?	Write a brief summary of the book. Remember to begin your paragraph with a topic sentence (main idea of the paragraph). The next few sentences should include the main events of the story and the last sentence of your paragraph should be a concluding statement.
What were your connections between the text and your prior experience or knowledge?	Was there anything in the book that you read that you were familiar with already (life experiences, history class, other books, television, discussions with parents, etc.)? If not, what ideas were new to you (characters or fictional places, but personalities, experiences, the time period, etc.)?
To which character did you most strongly respond and why?	Did you like or dislike a particular character in the book? Explain your answer. Describe his/her personality. What was it about them that you admired or disliked? If you did not feel anything about the character, explain why you think he/she did not make an impression on you.
As you read the book, how did it change a view you previously had?	Describe how it revealed something new to you whether it is about life in general or about yourself. Did you change your mind about anything after you read the book? Explain. Did you learn anything new from reading the book? Explain. Did you just enjoy reading about a familiar subject? How was it already familiar to you?

Response Paper Outline: The following is an outline of how the Response Paper should be structured.

- I. Introduction
- II. What is the book about?
- III. What were your connections between the text and your prior experience or knowledge?
- IV. To which character did you most strongly respond and why?
- V. As you read the book, how did it change a view you previously had?
- VI. Conclusion