

## **Grade 5<sup>th</sup> Summer Reading Assignment**

During the summer, students are expected to read *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes.

We will discuss the book the first week of school in September.

Each student is to write 1-2 paragraphs in which he/she present a summary and opinion of the book *Johnny Tremain*. You are to type your assignment.

Then the student may choose another book from the list and write a summary of the book and also be ready to share their thoughts on the book.

Each assignment needs to be typed.

## **Grade 5 Summer Reading**

### **Recommended Fiction:**

*Skullduggery Pleasant* by Derek Landry *The Schwa Was Here* by Neal Shusterman

*Homecoming* by Cynthia Voight

*My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George

*Nothing but the Truth* by Avi

*The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett

*Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick

### **Recommended Science Fiction and Fantasy:**

*The Eye, the Ear, and the Arm* by Nancy Farmer

*Half Magic* by Edward Eager

*The Name of this Book Is Secret* by Pseudonymous Bosch

### **Recommended Historical Fiction:**

*The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck

*Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes

*Bull Run* by Paul Fleischman

*The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*

by Avi

*Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse

### **Recommended Nonfiction:**

*The Dark Game: True Spy Stories* by Paul B. Janecko

*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science* by John Fleischman

*The Tarantula in My Purse and 172 Other Wild Pets* by Jean Craighead George

*Arab Science and Invention in the Golden Age* by Anne Blanchard

*Can I See Your ID? True Stories of False Identities* by Chris Barton

*The Word Snoop* by Ursula Dubosarsky

### **Recommended Biography/Memoir:**

*Gorilla Mountain: The Story of Wildlife Biologist, Amy Vedder* by Rene Ebersole

*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip M Hoose

*The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain* by Peter Sis

*Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery* by Russell Freedman

*Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement* by Ann

Bausum

## Grade 6 2018 Summer Reading List

### Required Reading for all students:

*Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

Students will select one or more other texts from the reading list.

### Recommended Summer Reading:

#### Fiction:

*The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Rodman Philbrick

*Leviathan* by Paul Westerfield

*What I Saw and How I Lied* by Judy Blundell

*Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko

*Countdown* by Deborah Wiles

*Moon Over Manifest* by Clare Vanderpool

*Heart of a Samurai* by Margi Preus

*The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly

#### Contemporary Fiction:

*When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead

*Liar and Spy* by Rebecca Stead

*Ninth Ward* by Jewell Parker Rhodes

*Sunrise Over Fallujah* by Walter Dean Myers

*A Mango Shaped Space* by Wendy Mass

*Smiles to Go* by Jerry Spinelli

*Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonneblick

*American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang

*Half Brother* by Kenneth Oppel

*Every Soul a Star* by Wendy Mass

*Chomp* by Carl Hiaasen

#### Fantasy/Science Fiction:

*The Alchemyst* by Michael Scott

*Impossible* by Nancy Werlin

*The Looking Glass Wars* by Frank Beddor

*The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Traitor to a Nation: Volume One* by M.T. Anderson

*Graceling* by Kristen Cashore

*Ship Breaker* by Paola Bacigalupi

*Watership Down* by Richard Adams

*20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne

*War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells

*The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery

*The False Prince* by Jennifer Nielson

#### Classics:

*The Red Pony* by John Steinbeck

*Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls  
*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

**Non-Fiction:**

*The Real Benedict Arnold*, by Jim Murphy  
*Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* by Deborah Heiligman  
*Mao's Last Dancer* by Li Cunxin  
*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson  
*Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95* by Phillip Hoose

**Poetry:**

*Swan: Poems and Prose Poems* by Mary Oliver  
*Delights and Shadows: Poems* by Ted Kooser  
*Boris* by Cynthia Rylant

## Grade 6 Summer Reading Essay Assignment

Please write a four-paragraph essay **and** outline in which you explore and analyze one of the themes you have encountered in *Wonder*.

Please take some time to organize your thoughts and write the outline **first**. Make sure the outline contains your thesis, main points, and evidence. The outline must be stapled to your essay.

Your essay must include:

An introduction with:

1. A clear hook/lead
2. The title and author of the book you are discussing
3. A well formulated thesis statement: the thesis statement must state the theme you wish to analyze and explore.

Two Body Paragraphs with:

1. Topic Sentences
2. Explanation and logic
3. Textual evidence in MLA format “.....” (Palacio 12)
4. Explanation of the evidence
5. Discourse Markers/Transitional Words
6. Concluding statements

A Conclusion with:

1. A restatement of the thesis in different words
2. Implications/Observations/Questions

This essay format should look **very** familiar to all you. Take this opportunity to think about the text, formulate a clear argument, and utilize strong textual evidence for support. I look forward to reading your analysis in September!

## Grade 6 Secondary Reading Assignment

Please write 1-2 paragraphs in which you present a summary and opinion of the book you selected from the reading list.

## Grade 7 Summer Reading List 2018

### Required Summer Reading for all students:

*Chains* by Laura Halse Anderson

Students will select one or more other texts from the reading list.

### Recommended Books:

#### Fiction:

*Milkweed: A Novel* by Jerry Spinelli

*If I Stay* by Gayle Forman

*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

*Purple Heart* by Patricia McCormick

*If You Come Softly* by Jacqueline Woodson

*A Voice of Her Own: Becoming Emily Dickinson* by Barbara Dana

*Heart of a Champion: A Novel* by Carl Deuker

*Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld

*Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow

*Son* by Lois Lowry

#### Fantasy and Science Fiction:

*Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty and the Beast* by Robin McKinley

*The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins

*A Wizard of Earthsea* by Ursula K. LeGuin

*Seraphina* by Rachel Hartman

#### Historical Fiction:

*Dragon's Gate* by Laurence Yep

*Nightjohn* by Gary Paulson

*Summer of My German Soldier* by Bette Greene

#### Non- Fiction:

*The Ultimate Weapon: The Race to Develop the Atomic Bomb* by Edward T. Sullivan

*Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson

*Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland* by Sally M. Walker

#### Mystery and Adventure:

*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

*No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith

#### Biography/Memoir:

*I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust* by Livia Bitton Jackson

*Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI* by Ryan Smithson

*Snow Falling in Spring: Coming of Age in China during the Cultural Revolution* by Moying Li

*Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Almost True Stories about Growing up Scieszka* by Jon Scieszka

#### Poetry:

*You and Yours* by Naomi Shihab Nye  
*The Trouble with and Other Poems* by Billy Collins

### Grade 7 *Chains* Summer Essay Assignment

Please write a four-paragraph essay **and** outline in which you explore and analyze one of the themes you have encountered in *Chains*.

Please take some time to organize your thoughts and write the outline **first**. Make sure the outline contains your thesis, main points, and evidence. The outline must be stapled to your essay.

Your essay must include:

An introduction with:

4. A clear hook/lead
5. The title and author of the text you are discussing
6. A well formulated thesis statement: the thesis statement must state the theme you wish to analyze and explore.

Two Body Paragraphs with:

7. Topic Sentences
8. Explanation and logic
9. Textual evidence in MLA format “.....” (Halse Anderson 12)
10. Explanation of the evidence
11. Discourse Markers/Transitional Words
12. A concluding statement

A Conclusion with:

3. A restatement of the thesis in different words
4. Implications/Observations/Questions

This essay format should look **very** familiar to all you. Take this opportunity to think about the text, formulate a clear argument, and utilize strong textual evidence for support. I look forward to reading your analysis in September!

### Grade 7 Secondary Reading Assignment

Please write 1-2 paragraphs in which you present a summary and opinion of the book you selected from the reading list.

## Grade 8 2018 Summer Reading List

### Required Summer Reading for all students:

*The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

Students will select one or more other texts from the reading list.

### Fiction:

*Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*I Am the Messenger* by Markus Zusak

*Heart of a Samurai* by Margi Preus

*Elephant Run* by Roland Smith

*The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green

### Fantasy:

*The Raven Boys* by Maggie Stiefvater

*Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card

*Shadow and Bone* by Leigh Bardugo

*The Divergent Series* by Veronica Roth

*The 5th Wave* by Rick Yancey

*Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs

*The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer

### Classics:

*The Once and Future King* by T.H. White

*A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* by Mark Twain

*Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

*The Power of One* by Bryce Courtenay

*Something Wicked This Way Comes* by Ray Bradbury

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

### Non- Fiction:

*Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex* by Nathaniel Philbrick (there is also an adult version called *In the Heart of the Sea*)

*Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser

*In Defense of Food* by Michael Pollan (if students enjoyed *The Omnivore's Dilemma*)

*Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long Distance Swimmer* by Lynne Cox

*Bootleg: Murder, Moonshine, and the Lawless Years of Prohibition* by Karen Blumenthal

*Born on a Blue Day: Inside the Extraordinary Mind of an Autistic Savant* by Daniel Tammet

## **Eighth Grade Required Summer Reading**

During the summer, students are expected to read *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. We will be using this novel to launch a discussion of the theme of nonconformity as soon as school begins in September. Below, you will find some discussion questions to help deepen your thinking about the novel—students, please discuss the questions with your parents and/or peers.

Tough Questions to Ponder (think about *The Outsiders* as you consider them)

1. Is conformity beneficial?
2. In what ways are loyalty and rivalry connected? Do these traits serve people well?
3. What creates prejudice and what can an individual do to overcome it?
4. How do people gain power?
5. What is family?

Book-specific Questions

1. Which character were you most able to relate to? Why?
2. In what ways does Ponyboy change over the course of the novel?
3. In what ways are you like a Greaser? In what way are you like a Soc?
4. Every book has themes. What are some themes of *The Outsiders*? There are lots!
5. What did you notice about S.E. Hinton's writing style? Did you catch any figurative language? Foreshadowing? Symbolism? Repetition? What did you like/dislike about her craft?



## **Grade 8 *The Outsiders* Summer Essay Assignment**

Please write a **five-paragraph** essay **and** outline in which you explore and analyze one of the themes you have encountered in *The Outsiders*.

Please take some time to organize your thoughts and write the outline **first**. Make sure the outline contains your thesis, main points, and evidence. The outline must be stapled to your essay.

Your essay must include:

An introduction with:

7. A clear hook/lead
8. The title and author of the text you are discussing
9. A well formulated thesis statement: the thesis statement must state the theme you wish to analyze and explore.

Three Body Paragraphs with:

13. Topic Sentences
14. Explanation and logic
15. Textual evidence in MLA format “.....” (Hinton 12)
16. Explanation of the evidence
17. Discourse Markers/Transitional Words
18. Concluding statements

A Conclusion with:

5. A restatement of the thesis in different words
6. Implications/Observations/Questions

This essay format should look **very** familiar to all you. Take this opportunity to think about the text, formulate a clear argument, and utilize strong textual evidence for support. I look forward to reading your analysis in September!

## **Grade 8 Secondary Reading Assignment**

Please write 1-2 paragraphs in which you present a summary and opinion of the book you selected from the reading list.

