**Grade 5 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. Janeckzo
*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:**
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!
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.