

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING PROJECT 2022

Students: It's going to be another long, hot summer, and what better way to spend it than to do some reading...

Select one (1) of the following titles from the grade level you will enter next fall. There's no need to buy a book; all titles are in PDF format. Just Google search with the title of the book and 'pdf'. Browse through any of the titles before making your selection. A list of projects is at the end of this document.

The Summer Reading Project comes due on Friday of our first week of school.

6th grade (Class of 2025)

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

The Logan's, a black family in 1930's Mississippi, battle racism to keep their land.

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman

After the murder of his family, Nobody "Bod" Owens is adopted and raised...by the occupants of a graveyard.

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

As the American colonies fight for freedom, thirteen-year-old Isabel, a slave, yearns for freedom, too.

Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maud Montgomery

Red-headed orphan Anne is adopted by an elderly couple, whose lives she enriches. (Several copies of this novel available in 7th grade)

Holes by Louis Sachar

Stanley Yalnat is sent to Camp Green Lake, a correctional facility in Texas, for a theft he did not commit.

7th grade (Class of 2024)

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Jonas lives in a society free of pain and sadness, until he becomes The Giver.

The Maze Runner by James Dashner

A teen awakens to find himself in a clearing, with no memory of his past. He has become a resident in a society of teens who each day send a pair into the maze to find a way out. Dystopian science fiction at its finest.

Tangerine by Edward Bloor

A coming of age novel, concerning the experiences of twelve-year-old Paul Fisher after his family moves to Tangerine County, Florida. Themes of bullying, discrimination, and courage.

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien

A fantasy novel centered on the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, who seeks to capture a share of the golden treasure guarded by the dragon Smaug.

Mr. Tucket by Gary Paulsen

Fourteen-year-old Francis Tucket and his family head west on the Oregon Trail.

8th grade (Class of 2023)

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

A modern classic, Lee's coming-of-age novel follows Scout Finch and her brother Jem as they learn much about prejudice and racism.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Narrated by Death, this story is about a young girl living with foster parents in Nazi Germany during World War II. Even as the Nazis burn books, she steals them, learns how to read, and takes comfort in words.

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

A group of boys are shipwrecked on an island. Lacking adult supervision, they set up rules and try to organize, but turn savage and violent.

Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper

Melody is intelligent and creative, but she is not like most people. She has cerebral palsy, and struggles to fit in to a world of people who can move and talk.

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis

Elijah, the first child born into freedom in Buxton, Canada, embarks on a dangerous journey in pursuit of a thief.

Finished reading? Now select one of the projects listed below. This project comes due the first week of the school year.

Character Scrapbook. Use two sheets (the same color) of construction paper. Use six sheets, any color for the interior. Staple along one edge to form a book. The interior pages should have illustrations of the major events in the novel.

Fictional Yearbook Entries. Select any three (3) characters, and adopt the premise that they all attended the same high school. On a couple of pages, arrange their class photo, and provide a write-up. What superlatives did they win? Class Clown? Most Likely to Succeed? Did they play any sports? Join or lead a club? Don't make it up! What you write should be accurate to the character's behavior in the novel.

Character Trading Cards. Make trading cards (like baseball cards) for three characters. On the front, draw or upload an appropriate image of the character. The backside must list character traits and an important line spoken by the character. This can be done on cardstock, or pasted to 3" x 5" index cards.

Plot Acrostic. Use the title of the novel to generate an acrostic poem about the plot. The title is arranged vertically on one side; each line reveals details from the plot.

Character Report Card. Choose any character from your novel, and come up with five traits (loyalty, honesty, etc.) of his or her personality that you can grade. Write the character's name at the top of the page. Give the character a grade for each subject, and provide support in a comments section. For example the character Tom Sawyer might receive an A for Mischief; the comment could read "Tom persuades his friends that whitewashing a fence is fun, so he won't have to do it." Produce this project on a computer or word processor. Not handwritten!