

Entering Grade 5 Summer Reading:

All incoming 5th grade students must read *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. On the first day of school you must arrive ready to discuss this book and complete assignments on it. In addition, choose one or more books from the following list. Choose something you have not read before.

Owls in the Family by Farley Mowat
The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
Lily's Crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
Peter Pan by J.M Barrie
Daughter of the Mountains by Louise Rankin
Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata
The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
Rascal by Sterling North
Adam of the Road by Elizabeth Janet Gray
Redwall by Brian Jacques (or another in the series)
Bridge to Teribithia by Katherine Paterson
Any from the *Crispin* Series by Avi
King of the Wind by Margaret Henry
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George
A Tree in the Trail by Holling Clancy Holling (or any by this author)
Any in *The Narnia Chronicles* by C.S. Lewis (except *The Silver Chair*)

The assignment for the second book is to create a paper bag book report. You will bring this with you and turn it in on the first day of school. The paper bag must be decorated in the theme of the book and must include the title, author, and your name. Inside the bag, you must include ten objects that relate to the story. The objects can be real or you can make them yourself. The items should be varied in nature.

You also need to write a one page summary of the book including descriptions of the main characters, the main plot, and a conclusion. Include a paragraph that tells whether you liked the book or not and why. Reports must be typed and double spaced.

MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE!

If you like to read and are up for a challenge, get ready! All students, who read five additional books from this list, will have a pizza party lunch. These five additional books are books that you have not previously read from this list or pre-approved by your teacher. You and your parents must sign a book log listing the 6 book titles. Bring your signed log to school on the first day.

Entering Grade 6 Summer Reading:

All incoming 6th grade students must read ***Wonder*** by R.J. Palacio. On the first day of school you must arrive ready to discuss this book and complete assignments on it.

In addition, choose one or more books from the following list. Choose something you have not read before.

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen (or another Paulsen book)
Amos Fortune, Freeman by Elizabeth Yates
The Incredible Journey by Shelia Burnford
Call it Courage by Armstrong Sperry
Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery (or another in the series)
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
Half Magic by Edward Eager
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
Homeless Bird by Gloria Whelan
Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park
Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief by Wendelin Van Draanen
100 Cupboards by N.D. Wilson
Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff
The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan (or another in the series)
Soul Surfer by Bethany Hamilton
Everything on a Waffle by Polly Horvath
The Penderwicks on Gardam Street by Jeanne Birdsall
Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins

The assignment for the second book is to create a paper bag book report. You will bring this with you and turn it in on the first day of school. The paper bag must be decorated in the theme of the book and must include the title, author, and your name. Inside the bag you must include ten objects that relate to the story. The items should be varied in nature. The objects can be real or you can make them yourself.

You also need to write a one page summary of the book including descriptions of the main characters, the main plot, and a conclusion. Include a paragraph that tells whether you liked the book or not and why. Reports must be typed and double spaced.

MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE!

If you like to read and are up for a challenge, get ready! All students, who read five additional books from this list, will have a pizza party lunch. These five additional books are books that you have not previously read from this list or pre-approved by your teacher. You and your parents must sign a book log listing the 6 book titles. Bring your signed log to school on the first day.

Entering Grade 7 - Summer Reading Assignment:

All 7th grade students please read *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi and a second book from the list below. You must read something that you have not read before. Complete the Character Analysis Essay attached for the additional book you choose. The essay is due on the first day of school.

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson
The Light Princess by George MacDonald
The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
Eight Cousins by Louisa May Alcott
Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame
April Morning by Howard Fast
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
The Summer of the Swans by Betsey Byars
Gold Dust by Chris Lynch
The City of Ember by Jeanne Du Prau
The Wanderers by Sharon Creech and David Diaz
Nory Ryan's Song by Patricia Reilly Giff
Rules by Cynthia Lord
Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool
The Name of This Book is Secret by Pseudonymous Bosch
Eleven by Patricia Reilly Giff
When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead
Around the World in 100 Days by Gary Blackwoods
Touchblue by Cynthia Lord
All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot (or another in this series)
Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer
The Strange Case of Origami Yoda by Tom Angleberger

MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE!

If you like to read and are up for a challenge, get ready! All students, who read five additional books from this list, will have a pizza party lunch. These five additional books are books that you have not previously read from this list or pre-approved by your teacher. You and your parents must sign a book log listing the 6 book titles. Bring your signed log to school on the first day.

Entering Grade 8 - Summer Reading Assignment

All 8th grade students please read ***The Outsiders*** by S.E. Hinton and two books from the list below. You must read something that you have not read before. Complete the Character Analysis Essay attached for one of the two additional books you choose. The essay is due on the first day of school.

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien
At the Back of the North Wind by George MacDonald
Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne
Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank
Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
Miracle's Boys by Jacqueline Woodson
Airborn by Kenneth Oppel
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt
Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
The Other Side of Truth by Beverley Naidoo
Kon Tiki by Thor Heyerdahl
Ties That Bind, Ties That Break by Lensey Namioka
Stones in Water by Donna Jo Napoli
The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury
Dove by Robin Lee Graham
Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson
The Pigman by Paul Zindel
Hoot by Carl Hiassen
Close to Famous by Joan Bauer
Journey to the Center of the Earth by Jules Verne
Heat by Mike Lupica
Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata

MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE!

If you like to read and are up for a challenge, get ready! All students, who read five additional books from this list, will have a pizza party lunch. These five additional books are books that you have not previously read from this list or pre-approved by your teacher. You and your parents must sign a book log listing the 6 book titles. Bring your signed log to school on the first day.

Have a great summer!

Character Analysis Essay

Grades 7 & 8

Choose one dynamic character in your chosen book. Write an essay explaining how the character changes throughout the book. The essay will need an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion.

Details:

- Paragraphs should have a minimum of five sentences per paragraph.
- Paragraph 2 contains an interesting and concise description of setting and plot summary.
- Paragraph 3 contains descriptions of main characters.
- Paragraph 4 describes the chosen character and the change that takes place in this character through the story.
- Body paragraphs 5-7 each contain and prove one main point from the thesis statement. These paragraphs are the evidence for the change that takes place in the character.
- Include at least two relevant quotes from the book to support the evidence for the chosen character's change or growth. Use proper punctuation for quotations and proper page citation for the page number. MLA style uses parenthesis for quotations. For example (43) for a quote found on page 43.
- Your essay should be 1.5-2 pages in length.
- Essays must be typed and double-spaced.

Final Copy Due: First Day of School

	10 : All requirements are met	8 : Most requirements are met	6 : Some requirements are met
Paragraph 1 : Introduction	Catchy attention-getter immediately attracts the reader; provides background information about character and/or story; flows smoothly to the thesis statement, which is the last sentence of the paragraph.	Attention-getter attracts the reader but jumps to the thesis statement without proper development. Thesis statement is not the final sentence.	Necessary parts of the introduction are missing and/or out of order.
Thesis statement	The thesis statement is clear and is contained within one sentence and contains 3 points as evidence to how the chosen character changed throughout the book.	Purpose and topic are introduced but may be vague or incomplete. A clear change in the chosen character is not well described.	Purpose may be missing or unclear; Topic may be brief or difficult to identify.
Paragraph 2: Setting & brief plot summary	The setting of the book and the plot summary are summarized in this paragraph with effective transitions. The reader gets the general idea of what the book is about in an interesting way.	A plot summary is present however it lacks clarity and interest. OR chronological events are listed in a list format or with too many confusing details.	Setting and Summary are present but is not well developed.
Paragraph 3: Character Descriptions	The main characters are described in a way that adds depth to the plot summary. The reader gets a brief, but interesting, description of each main character in a way that does not sound like a list.	The main characters are described in a way that adds depth to the plot summary. The reader gets a brief description of each character in a way that sounds like a list.	Writing lacks detail and/or does not fully develop the main character s.
Paragraph 4: Chosen Character & Described Change	The chosen character is well described, The change that takes place in this character through the story is restated. Three main points as evidence for the change the character experienced are restated clearly and logically.	The chosen character is described, The change that takes place in this character is restated. Three main points lack clarity and logic.	The character and thesis are not well developed.
Paragraphs 5-7: Support paragraphs / Evidence for thesis	10 points each Each main point is stated in its own paragraph with evidence, specific details, examples and quotes from the book. Paragraphs have at least 5 sentences. Paragraphs make the point clearly and concisely. (Less than 10 sentences.)	8 points each Paragraphs begin with a topic sentence. Supporting sentences are vague and/or insufficient. Most paragraphs are too short. OR Some paragraphs are too long, dragging on without clarity.	6 points each or less Writing lacks detail and/or does not fully develop the character's change described in the introduction
Conclusion	Begins with a rephrasing of the thesis statement that repeats the 3 points. Ends with a concluding thought that gives reader something to think about.	The conclusion is actually a summary that repeats previously stated information without rephrasing. OR new information is introduced that does not fit.	No new insight or conclusion is provided. Or, there is no conclusion and the paper does not wrap-up well.
Word Choice	Precise, vivid, descriptive words create a clear message to engage the audience. No vague, overused, repetitive language.	Some word choices are vague, overused, inappropriate, repetitive (a lot, great, very, really, etc.)	Word choice does not appear to have been considered. Many words are vague or unclear.
Conventions & Spelling	There are no capitalization or punctuation errors found within the essay. There are no spelling errors.	There are a few capitalization and/or punctuation errors found within the essay. There are a few spelling errors.	There are several capitalization and/or punctuation errors found within the essay. There are spelling errors.