

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. Choose books you have not read before. Students are encouraged to choose more than two books. All students should bring a list of the books they read in to school on the first day.

Choose one book to **complete the essay** prompt attached on the next page. The essay is due on the first day of school.

<p><i>Towers Falling</i> by Rhodes <i>The Hobbit</i> by J. R. R. Tolkien <i>The Seventh Most Important Thing</i> by Pearsall <i>At the Back of the North Wind</i> by George MacDonald <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> by Lewis Carroll <i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i> by Jules Verne <i>Diary of Anne Frank</i> by Anne Frank <i>Oliver Twist</i> by Charles Dickens <i>Miracle's Boys</i> by Jacqueline Woodson <i>Airborn</i> by Kenneth Oppel <i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli <i>Homecoming</i> by Cynthia Voigt <i>Into Thin Air</i> by Jon Krakauer <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London <i>Dove</i> by Robin Lee Graham <i>David Copperfield</i> by Charles Dickens <i>Ulysses</i> by James Joyce <i>Little Women</i> by Louisa May Alcott <i>In the Heart of the Sea: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex</i> by Nathaniel Philbrick</p>	<p><i>Forward me Back to You</i> by Perkins <i>Sweep</i> by Auxier <i>Jacob Have I Loved</i> by Katherine Paterson <i>The Pigman</i> by Paul Zindel <i>Hoot</i> by Carl Hiassen <i>Close to Famous</i> by Joan Bauer <i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i> by Jules Verne <i>Heat</i> by Mike Lupica <i>Weedflower</i> by Cynthia Kadohata <i>The Other Side of Truth</i> by Beverley Naidoo <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen <i>Ties That Bind, Ties That Break</i> by Lensey Namioka <i>Stones in Water</i> by Donna Jo Napoli <i>The Martian Chronicles</i> by Ray Bradbury <i>Rebecca</i> by Daphne du Maurier <i>The Wind in the Willows</i> by Kenneth Grahame <i>Captain Corelli's Mandolin</i> by Louis de Bernieres <i>The Finest Hours</i> by Michael J. Tougias and Casey Sherman</p>
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MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE!

If you like to read and are up for a challenge, get ready! All students, who read **five or more** 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 were pre-approved by your teacher. You and your parents must sign a book log. Bring your signed log to school on the first day.

Choose your own adventure! If you would like to choose your own summer reading, feel free to make your own list. Please choose books at or above your grade level. Submit the typed list to your current LA teacher for pre-approval.

8th Grade Summer Reading Prompt:

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.
- Paragraphs 1 and 8 will be your introductory and concluding paragraphs.
- 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 (Lewis, 43) for a quote found on page 43 written by C.S. Lewis.
- Standard grammar is used throughout essay (capitalization, punctuation, consistent verb tense, subject/verb agreement, possessive nouns, comma usage).

- Correct spelling is used throughout essay.
- Your essay should be under 2 pages in length.
- Essays must be typed and double-spaced.

Final Copy Due: First Day of School