

## 2009-2010

### Entering 7th and 8th grade Summer Reading Assignment

• It is in your best interest to complete all of your reading throughout the summer as opposed to the night before school starts. Reading a book, completing a book report and writing paragraphs at the last minute is not my idea of a good time, nor will it help you maintain your reading and writing level. Do not let all of your improvements go to waste. Do not read the books you read last summer. Records were kept of those books already read.

• You will take an AR test on any of these books when you return in the fall. The points you earn will count for your AR points during the first quarter.

TITLE	AUTHOR
<u>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</u>	Mark Twain
<u>Anastasia Krupnik</u>	Lois Lowry
<u>Anne of Avonlea</u>	L.M. Montgomery
<u>Anne of Green Gables</u>	L.M. Montgomery
<u>Around the World in Eighty Days</u>	Jules Verne
<u>The Bad Beginning (any in the series)</u>	Lemony Snicket
<u>The Black Pearl</u>	Scott O'Dell
<u>The Black Stallion</u>	Walter Farley
<u>Bridge to Terebethia</u>	Katherine Paterson
<u>Bud, Not Buddy</u>	Christopher Paul Curtis
<u>Call It Courage</u>	Armstrong Sperry
<u>The Cay</u>	Roald Dahl
<u>Dacey's Song</u>	Cynthia Voight
<u>Dogsong</u>	Gary Paulsen
<u>Fever 1793</u>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<u>The Great Gilly Hopkins</u>	Katherine Paterson
<u>Harriet the Spy</u>	Louise Fitzhugh
<u>Harriet Tubman...Underground Railroad</u>	Ann Petry
<u>Harry Potter (Any)</u>	J.K. Rowling
<u>Hatchet</u>	Gary Paulsen
<u>Homecoming</u>	Cynthia Voight
<u>How the West Was Won</u>	Louis L'Amour
<u>The Incredible Journey</u>	Sheila Bumford
<u>The Indian in the Cupboard</u>	Lynne Reid Banks
<u>Johnny Tremain</u>	Esther Forbes
<u>Julie of the Wolves</u>	Jean Craighead George
<u>Let the Circle Be Unbroken</u>	Mildred Taylor
<u>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</u>	C.S. Lewis
<u>Rumble Fish</u>	S.E. Hinton
<u>Shiloh</u>	Phyllis Reynolds
<u>Summer of My German Soldier</u>	Bette Greene
<u>Summer of the Monkeys</u>	Wilson Rawls
<u>Swiss Family Robinson</u>	Johann Wyss
<u>Taming the Star Runner</u>	S.E. Hinton

Tears of a Tiger  
That Was Then, This Is Now  
Treasure Island  
True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle  
Lord of the Rings Trilogy  
Where the Red Fern Grows  
White Fang  
The Witch of Blackbird Pond  
The Year Without Michael

Sharon Draper  
S.E. Hinton  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
Avi  
J.R.R. Tolkien  
Wilson Rawls  
Jack London  
Elizabeth George Speare  
Susan Pfeffer

**You May NOT Read the Following Books:**

<u>The Outsiders</u>	S.E. Hinton
<u>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</u>	Mildred Taylor
<u>The Diary of a Young Girl</u>	Anne Frank
<u>The Giver</u>	Lois Lowery
<u>To Kill a Mocking Bird</u>	Harper Lee
<u>Romeo and Juliet</u>	William Shakespeare
<u>The Westing Game</u>	Ellen Raskin
<u>Night</u>	Eli Wiesel
<u>No Promises in the Wind</u>	Irene Hunt
<u>The Devil's Arithmetic</u>	Jane Yolen
<u>The Year of the Hangman</u>	Gary Blackwood
<u>Rascal</u>	Sterling North

Assignment #1: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Letter Writing Assignment: You will write a letter to your seventh and eighth grade Language Arts teacher, Miss Robin Barto, **and actually send it to the school!** The letter should detail your thoughts on one of the books from the summer reading list. I am looking forward to hearing from you and your personal response to the book. In your letter include enough detail so I know you read carefully, but remember this is **not** a summary of the plot. I want to know what you think about this book.

**Pointers:**

- Mail your letter to:  
Miss Robin Barto  
St. Vincent de Paul  
6571 Larkspur Drive  
Mobile, AL 36619-1563
- Your letter should be postmarked no later than August 10, 2009.
- Be sure to say enough. Letters should be about one and a half pages handwritten. Please use blue or black pen.

***Here are some suggestions as to what you can include in your letter:***

- Which character do you find most appealing? This may not be the main character of the story. Tell me why this character appeals to you. Do you relate to this

character? Would you want this character to be your friend? Give specific examples from the book to support your choice.

- Ask a question based on what you wonder about. That is, what do you think the author is trying to say here? Or why does a character do or say something? It is important to compose an open-ended question. An open-ended question is a thinking question. It can't be answered with a "yes" or "no" response. After you create your question, respond to it. Remember to use specific examples from the book to support your answer.
- Describe how you felt [saddened, hopeful, relieved, angry, etc.] while reading this book. What events or characters made you feel this way? Remember to use specific examples from the book to support your answer.

### Assignment #2: My Word Bank

For each book you read keep a list of words that are unfamiliar to you. After you generate your list of words, select ten words. Use a 5"x8" index card to create a word bank card for each of the ten words. I included a format card and a sample card. Notes cards should be turned in on the first day of school.

### Word Bank Card Format

<p><b>Word</b></p> <p>Part of speech</p> <p>Definition</p> <p>Synonym</p> <p>Antonym</p>
<p>Quote from the book, page #, name of book and author</p>
<p>Original student sentence</p>

### Example

<p><b>Ubiquitous</b></p> <p>adjective</p> <p>-being or seeming to be everywhere at once</p> <p>synonym: encompassing</p> <p>antonym: absent</p>
<p>"In some places the <u>ubiquitous</u> vines had been woven into living wreaths and other fanciful patterns." Pg. 55 <u>Fablehaven</u>, Brandon Mull</p>
<p>As I walked into my brother's room, the <u>ubiquitous</u> aroma of dirty sweaty socks overwhelmed me. Yuck!</p>