

Rising 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

On the first day of class, the following assignments will be collected. This will count as your first Literature grade. Staple ALL your papers together but DO NOT use a report cover.

Your assignment this summer is to read a MINIMUM of TWO books this summer. Use the recommended reading list found at your local public library for middle school students as a jumping off point. Join their summer reading program as a bonus!

For EACH book, you will head your pages with YOUR NAME, the TITLE, the AUTHOR, and the GENRE (TYPE of literature). **Please limit your writing to NO MORE than two pages for each book.**

FOR ALL NONFICTION BOOKS (READ NO MORE THAN ONE)

- *In one paragraph*, give a brief summary of the book.
- Describe, in your own words, something new that you learned.
- *In one paragraph*, describe why you did or did not like this book. Don't limit yourself to a blasé "I liked this book because..." kind of review. Think about what – aside from liking or not liking it – you got out of reading this novel.

FOR ALL FICTION BOOKS

- *In your first paragraph*, give a BRIEF summary of the story. Include the main characters, the action, and how the story ended.
- *In your second paragraph*, describe the DETAILS of the setting(s): where and when the story takes place. Remember, the setting is not limited to cities and dates. It can be seasons, historical events (like "during the Great Depression"), or even country vs. cityscapes.
- *In your last TWO paragraphs*, use two of the **Thinking Stems** found on the following page. Remember, these are RESPONSES to help you connect to the book and show what you got out of it. Select two different responses for each book you read if reading more than one.

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER AS YOU COMPLETE YOUR SUMMER READING:

- ✓ Both reports should be typed using 12-point, Times New Roman (or similar) font.
- ✓ Each report should be NO MORE than TWO pages.
- ✓ Use the correct heading for each paper.
- ✓ Double-space your paper - THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST.
- ✓ REVISE AND EDIT YOUR WORK. Ask someone else (like a parent) to read it.

Thinking Stems

<p>Schema – Making connections using your prior knowledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That reminds me of... • I'm remembering... • I have a connection to... • I can relate to... 	<p>Questioning – Generate questions before, during, & after reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I wonder... • What if... • Why... • I don't understand... • It confused me... • How could...
<p>Visualizing – Create mental images. Use your senses!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm picturing... • My mental images include... • I can feel... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ see... ○ smell... ○ taste... ○ touch... ○ hear... 	<p>Inferring – What we know (prior knowledge) + What we read = Inference!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My guess is... • Maybe (Perhaps)... • This could mean... • I predict... • I infer... • It could be that...
<p>Metacognition – Thinking about our thinking!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm thinking... • I'm noticing... • I'm wondering... • I'm seeing... • I'm feeling... 	<p>Determining Importance – What matters most?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's important here... • What matters to me... • I want to remember... • It's interesting that... • One thing that we should notice...
<p>Setting (Time and Place) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This story takes place... • Something I noticed about the setting... • I would/wouldn't like to live during this time period/in this place because... • Any words or phrases the author used to describe the setting are... 	<p>Synthesizing – Changing your thinking along the way!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now I understand why... • I'm changing my mind about... • I used to think _____, but now I think... • My new thinking is... • I'm beginning to think...
<p>Author's Message – The story behind the story</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is this story really about? • What does this story say about the world around me? • What are the big ideas (themes) I have been identifying so far? • What is the lesson of this book? 	<p>Evaluating – Sum it all up!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I agree with ____ because... • I don't think... • If I were to change the ending, I would...