

Seventh and Eighth Grade Summer Reading 2021

Because it is important to keep learning year round, you will be reading at least **three** age appropriate books over the summer and responding to each with a thoughtful journal reflection of at least **eight** sentences. You may choose either fiction or non-fiction books which appeal to you and which are challenging without being too difficult.

For fiction books, your journal reflections should include your reaction to the book, your thoughts on the book's theme (the author's message about life), and any other thoughts on the book's plot and characters. For non-fiction books, you should write a summary about what you have learned and your reaction to this new knowledge.

Journal reflections may be hand-written or typed and submitted during the first week of school. Your reflections will be worth ten points each and will become your first graded assignment of the new school year. Here are some suggestions for books that you might like. Have fun!

*Books with **more than 400 pages** may count as two books.*

** For those who would like to tackle an ambitious piece of writing, you may substitute an original short story of **1000 - 1600 words** for one of the books and reflections. Your story should have an interesting plot, at least one well-developed character, and a strong theme. Your short story can be submitted during the first week of school.

Suggestions for Reading:

If you like *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio, try

Auggie and Me: Three Wonder Stories by R.J. Palacio (includes "The Julian Chapter", Charlotte's chapter, and Christopher's chapter)

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt - about a sixth grade girl with dyslexia

One for the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (a modern day foster child story)

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

If you like historical fiction, try:

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare (Colonial America/witch hunt)

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi (mutiny on the high seas)

Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson (set on an island in the Chesapeake Bay during WWII)

Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi (medieval setting)

If you like *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls, try:

A Dog's Purpose by W. Bruce Cameron

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford

If you like *Tuck Everlasting*, try:

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

If you like *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin, try:

The View from Saturday by E.L. Konigsburg (bright 6th graders and a special teacher form a winning quiz bowl team)

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children or *Hollow City* or *Library of Souls* by Ransom Riggs (this series involves a time loop between 1940 and modern day, and the stories are told in text and unusual pictures)

If you like the dystopian theme of *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, try:

A Gathering Blue, *The Messenger*, or *Son* by Lois Lowry (The Giver Quartet - companion novels, not sequels - Jonas and Gabe are characters in *Son*)

The Maze Runner series by James Dashner

Divergent series by Veronica Roth

The Hunger Games series by Suzanne Collins

Legend Trilogy by Marie Wu

Scythe by Neal Shusterman

If you liked *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech, try:

Absolutely Normal Chaos by Sharon Creech (which is about May Lou Finney's unusual family)

Chasing Redbird or Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech

Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer

Great books in the fantasy genre:

The Hobbit or any of the books in *The Lord of the Rings* Trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien

Any of the *Harry Potter* books by J.K. Rowling

Any of *The Dark Is Rising* series by Susan Cooper

The Thief Lord or Inkheart by Cornelia Funke

Eragon by Christopher Paolini

Great books in the realistic fiction genre:

Crash or Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

Holes by Louis Sachar

When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen

Hoot or Flush by Carl Riassen

Tangerine by Edward Bloor

Travel Team or Heat by Mike Lupica

Great books in the survival genre:

Call of the Wild or White Fang by Jack London

Hatchet or Brian's Winter by Gary Paulsen

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

A Note From Ms. Kopp:

As you are reading these books of choice, be sure to take notes after each concluding chapter on anything you find noteworthy and memorable for you. Manage your time this summer where you have a quiet and safe space to dedicate at least 20 minutes of undisturbed reading at a time. I encourage you to read a physical book or ebook along-side an audiobook version if available. You may read these novels all at once and work on your journal reflections most of summer, or slowly, one chapter a day, complete the reading and then begin writing. I do not advise you to wait until the last minute to quickly read and write. Dedicate time and energy to read and write; devote yourself to this assignment to carefully pour into books and write all your thoughts and feelings while reading. Use this reading and writing as your private time to be alone and to meditate. Practice being still and quiet for just moments out of your summer days; this will assist you into transitioning back into the school year this fall. Take care and I will see you soon! I very much look forward to reading your journals.

Summer Math Work

Dear Middle School Families,

Summer Math work will be posted on Google Classroom, the MS website and emailed home. Students will complete weekly assignments from IXL, Desmos, and/or Delta Math. All IXL assignments will be completed to the second ribbon (usually a SMART score of 81%). Parents will sign the summer math worksheet after each week's assignments have been completed.

Summer math will be due the first week we return from Summer break.

Please email your child's current math teacher if you have any questions regarding the summer math.

Have a wonder summer,

The Middle School Team.

Summer Math for 6th grade math group entering 7th grade for the 2021-2022 school year.

Week of:	IXL assignments	Smart Score-81% or higher	Parent Signature
6/21	B2 B3 C1		
6/27	C5 C6 D1		
7/4	D5 E6 E7		
7/11	E8 E9 E11		
7/18	G2 I 11 I 14		
7/25	K13 L7 M7		
8/1	N3 N6 N12		
8/9	N14 Z2 Z4		
8/15	Z10 Z11 Z17		