



5TH AND 6TH GRADE SUMMER READING

DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR

Dear 5th and 6th Grade Students and their Parents,

Below is the summer reading assignment that was discussed on Step-Up Day. The Summer Reading program is designed to keep students engaged in their education over the summer. Academic success depends upon solid reading skills and studies show a direct link between students who read and their performance in the secondary classroom.

Students are to choose two novels to read. Attached is a list of suggested books. Most of these books are available at your local libraries or bookstores. While we try to choose books that are representative of appropriate content, age level, and maturity, we recommend you research the suggested selection. You may find sites such as: www.squeakycleanreviews.com, www.commonsemmedia.org, or www.thrivingfamily.com helpful as you discern the best book to read. Should your child want to read a book not on the suggested list, please email Mrs. Hagerstrom FIRST for approval.

1. Students should completely read any two books, taking into consideration reading level, interests and maturity level.
2. After reading the book, students should fill out the appropriate questionnaire, which is included in this packet.
3. The completed form, writing assignment, and poster are due on the first day of school.
4. This will be the first grade for reading in the first quarter of the new school year.

Please remember that the Summer Reading Program is **required** for all students entering grades five through twelve in the fall. This is a minimum requirement, and we encourage you to read as much as possible throughout the summer months.

We wish you all a wonderful summer!

In Christ's Love,
Mrs. Hagerstrom

5th and 6th Grade Summer Reading Choices

Fiction

Capture the Flag, Kate Messner
Hide and Seek, Kate Messner
Eye of the Storm, Kate Messner
Summer of the Gypsy Moths, Sara Pennypacker
Misty of Chincoteague or Sea Star, Marguerite Henry
The Call of the Wild, Jack London
Wonder, RJ Palacio
Rules, Cynthia Lord
Touch Blue, Cynthia Lord
The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg, Rodman Philbrick
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm, Kate Douglas Wiggin
The Trumpet of the Swan, E.B. White
Charlotte's Web, E.B. White
Becoming Joe Dimaggio, Maria Testa
Invention of Hugo Cabret, Brian Selznick
Johnny Tremain, Esther Forbes
The Phantom Tollbooth, Norton Juster
Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell
Esperanza Rising, Pam Munoz Ryan
Maniac Magee, Jerry Spinelli
Miracles on Maple Hill, Virginia Sorensen
The Bronze Bow, Elizabeth Spear
Shiloh, Phyllis Naylor

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIHM, Robert O'Brien
The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupery
The Cricket in Times Square, George Selden
The Sign of the Beaver, Elizabeth Speare
The Myserious Benedict Society, Trenton Lee Stewart
Thunderstorm in Church, Louise Vernon
Stuart Little, E. B. White
Crispin: The Cross of Lead, Avi
The Secret Garden, Francis Burnett
Sounder, William Armstrong
True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Avi
Caddie Woodlawn, Carol Brink
The Incredible Journey, Sheila Burnford
The Summer of the Swans, Betsy Byars
The Family Under the Bridge, Natalie Carlson
Dear Mr. Henshaw, Beverly Cleary
Because of Winn Dixie, Kate DiCamillo
The Tale of Despereaux, Kate DiCamillo
The Thief Lord, Cornelia Funke
Old Yeller, Fred Gipson
The Reluctant Dragon, Kenneth Grahame
The Wind in the Willows, Kenneth Grahame
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
Anne of Green Gables, L. M. Montgomery

Series

Cooper Kids series, Frank Peretti
Trailblazer series, Dave & Neta Jackson
The Boxcar Children, Gertrude Chandler Warner
How to Train Your Dragon, Cressida Cowell

Nancy Drew, Carolyne Keene
Hardy Boys, Franklin Dixon
Little House on the Prairie, Laura Ingalls Wilder
Wings of Fire series, Tui T. Sutherland

NonFiction

Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon, Steve Sheinkin
Giant Squid, Mary M. Cerullo
The Mighty Mars Rovers, Elizabeth Rusch
The Hive Detective, Loree Griffin Burns
Tracking Trash, Loree Griffin Burns
Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice, Phillip Hoose
MoonBird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor, Phillip Hoose
It Happened in Maine, Gail Underwood Parker
Lost Trail: Nine Days Alone in the Wilderness (Graphic Novel), Donn Fendler & Lynn Plourde
Lost on a Mountain in Maine, Donn Fendler & Joseph Egan
Joni: An Unforgettable Story, Joni Eareckson Tada
Gifted Hands, Kid's Edition, Ben Carson and Greg & Deborah Lewis
Soul Surfer, Bethany Hamilton

If a student wants to read a book that is not on the list, parents must email Mrs. Hagerstrom at shagerstrom@windhamchristian.org for approval.

5th & 6th Grade Summer Reading Record and Assignment

Students will read two books from the summer list over the summer break. Students will write a three paragraph report on one book and make a movie poster for the second book following the directions below.

Name _____

Keep a record of the books you read; please return this form, the writing assignment and the project to your teacher when you arrive to school on the first day of school.

#1 Book from the Fifth/Sixth Grade List of Books:

Title: _____ Author: _____ Pages: _____

#2 Book from the Fifth/Sixth Grade List of Books:

Title: _____ Author: _____ Pages: _____

I have read these entire books this summer. I have not previously read these books.

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Assignment #1: Writing Assignment:

For one of the books you have chosen from the reading list, write three paragraphs, no less than five sentences each, about the book. The first paragraph should be about the setting of the book. You should include evidence from the story that tells where and when it takes place. The second paragraph should be a description of the main characters of the book. Be sure to include what the major conflict was in the story and who the "hero" was. The third paragraph should be a summary of the story. Write 1-2 sentences about the **Beginning, Middle, and End.**

Your paragraphs will be assessed on the following qualities:

1. Content: setting, main characters, summary including Beginning, Middle, and End
2. Grammar: sentence structure and word choice, capitalization/punctuation/spelling
3. Penmanship (must be written neatly in cursive handwriting)

*6th grader ONLY may type this on a Google doc using MLA format.

Assignment #2: Poster Project Requirements:

For one of the books you have chosen from the reading list, make a movie poster. For 5th graders, it must be created on a poster paper or poster board. Sixth grade students may create it online. Use different types of art supplies for your poster (marker, paint, glitter, color pencils, crayons, etc.). Be creative!

The poster MUST include:

- 1) Title of novel must be in large writing and should stand out on your movie poster.
- 2) The author's name will appear on the poster as the director.
- 3) Your name will appear on the poster as the producer.
- 4) A major illustration or collage should be the focus of your poster. It should give the audience a good idea of the setting & a major plot element (significant scene) of the novel. DO NOT COPY THE BOOK COVER!
- 5) A minimum of TWO quotes shall be incorporated on the poster.
- 6) The main characters of the novel will be the "cast" in your "movie". Choose famous movie stars or television stars and "cast" them in the different character roles for your "movie". The "stars" of your "movie" should be named on your poster (you may print or cut out pictures of these actors if you wish, but not required).
- 7) The movie poster must have a Tag Line that interests the audience and describes the basic plot/theme of the movie. (For example: Shrek used "The greatest fairy tale never told" and Charlotte's Web used "Help is coming from above")
- 8) A rating of the novel must be on the poster. (For example: 5 stars "Recommended for the movie fan seeking a suspenseful and exciting adventure!" OR 1 star "Not recommended for the movie fan that hopes to be entertained and thrilled.")

5th and 6th Grade Summer Reading Grading Rubric

This will be the first two language grades you receive this year.

Assignment #1: Writing Assignment: For the first book you have chosen you will write a minimum of three good paragraphs.

1. Completed on time (Due 1st day of school) **10 points**
2. Penmanship (must be written neatly in cursive handwriting) **15 points**
3. Paragraph 1: **25 points**
 - a) At least 5 good sentences
 - b) Proper use of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and word choice
 - c) Good description of setting. You should include evidence from the story that tells where and when it takes place.
4. Paragraph 2: **25 points**
 - a) At least 5 good sentences
 - b) Proper use of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and word choice
 - c) The second paragraph should be a description of the main characters of the book. Be sure to include what the major conflict was in the story and who the "hero" was.
5. Paragraph 3: **25 points**
 - a) At least 5 good sentences
 - b) Proper use of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and word choice
 - c) The third paragraph should be a summary of the story. Write 1-2 sentences about the Beginning, Middle, and End.

Assignment #2: Movie Poster Project: For the second book you have chosen, make a movie poster.

1. Completed on time (Due 1st day of school) **5 points**
2. Neatness and creativity **10 points** It must be created on a poster paper or poster board. Use different types of art supplies for your poster (marker, paint, glitter, color pencils, crayons, etc.). Be creative!
3. The poster MUST include:
 - 1) Title of novel must be in large writing and should stand out on your movie poster. **10 points**
 - 2) The author's name will appear on the poster as the director. **5 points**
 - 3) Your name will appear on the poster as the producer. **5 points**
 - 4) A major illustration or collage should be the focus of your poster. It should give the audience a good idea of the setting & a major plot element (significant scene) of the novel. **DO NOT COPY THE BOOK COVER! 20 points**
 - 5) A minimum of TWO quotes shall be incorporated on the poster. **20 points**
 - 6) The main characters of the novel will be the "cast" in your "movie". Choose famous movie stars or television stars and "cast" them in the different character roles for your "movie". The "stars" of your "movie" should be named on your poster (you may print or cut out pictures of these actors if you wish, but not required). **10 points**
 - 7) The movie poster must have a Tagline that interests the audience and describes the basic plot/theme of the movie. **10 points** (For example: Shrek used "The greatest fairy tale never told" and Charlotte's Web used "Help is coming from above")
 - 8) A rating of the novel must be on the poster. **5 points** (For example: 5 stars "Recommended for the movie fan seeking a suspenseful and exciting adventure!" OR 1 star "Not recommended for the movie fan that hopes to be entertained and thrilled.")



7TH AND 8TH GRADE SUMMER READING

DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR

Dear 7th and 8th Grade Students and their Parents,

Attached is the summer reading assignment previously discussed on Step Up Day. This program is designed to expand the reading capabilities of our students. We believe that this is an important step in providing a high quality education for you, as academic success depends upon solid reading skills. Performance in the secondary classroom, on College Board tests, and during the college years relates directly to a student's reading habits.

Some notes about summer reading at the Middle School level (grades 7-8):

1. Abridged versions *are not* acceptable.
2. After reading the books, students should complete the projects appropriate for their grade level.
3. These projects, which are explained on the next page, are due on the first day of school. Ten points will be deducted for each day it's late. They may NOT be turned in to the school office during the summer.
4. The projects are worth a project grade for the first quarter.

In closing, please remember that the *Summer Reading Program* is required. This is a minimum requirement, however we certainly encourage you to read as much as possible throughout the summer months.

We wish you all a wonderful summer!

In Christ's love,
Mr. Hagerstrom

7th and 8th Grade Summer Reading Program

Choose any two books that:

A. Parents approve

B. Mr. Hagerstrom checks ahead of time for:

- Reading level
- Length
- Appropriateness
- Literary value

Book titles should be e-mailed to Mr. Hagerstrom for approval at rhagerstrom@windhamchristian.org.

Remember: *Unabridged* versions only.

Summer Reading Program – Middle School Criteria

7th Grade

To receive credit for having read the books, students will need to compare and contrast the books to each other in light of the following key elements of literature:

- Characters
- Setting
- Plot

This can be presented in one of the following ways:

- Written report (two pages)
- Slide show
- Power Point presentation
- Three panel display
- Web page
- Artwork of any kind
- Or any project pre-approved by the Middle School staff

Grading:

- 25 points for each of the three areas of literature thoroughly addressed (75 points)
- 15 points for organization/neatness
- 10 points for originality of project and/or grammar in report

8th Grade

To receive credit for having read the books, students will need to compare and contrast the books in light of these four key elements of literature:

- Characterization
- Setting
- Plot
- Theme

This can be presented in one of the following ways:

- Written report (two pages)
- Slide show
- Power Point presentation
- Three panel display
- Web page
- Artwork of any kind
- Or any project pre-approved by the Middle School staff

Grading:

- 20 points for *each* element of literature thoroughly addressed (80 points)
- 10 points for organization/neatness
- 10 points for originality of project and/or grammar in report



HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING

DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR

Dear High School Students and Parents,

I believe everyone can be a reader when they discover the right books. I also believe listening to audiobooks and being read to most definitely counts as reading. In my ideal world, everyone reads and I don't have to assign reading because people will read of their own choice. However, I realize that not everyone has discovered the joy of slipping into an imaginary world or pursuing information for the joy of learning. Studies show that students who do not read over the summer can lose up to two months of gains in reading skills.

With this in mind, the WCA Summer Reading Program is designed to expand the reading capabilities of our students. We believe that this program is an important step in providing a high quality education, as academic success depends upon solid reading skills. Performance in the secondary classroom, on College Board tests, and during the college years relates directly to a student's reading habits.

I have endeavored to create a summer reading requirement that balances the structure some students need with the freedom some students crave. The high school summer reading consists of 2 titles chosen by the student for English class.

1. Students must complete the assignment detailed on the next page.
2. Students should completely read books of their choice, taking into consideration reading level, interests, and maturity level.
3. The completed assignments are due on the first day of school, or may be turned in to the school office during the summer.
4. Audiobooks, e-books, graphic novels, short story collections, and poetry collections definitely count!

The summer reading program is the beginning of an invitation for high school students to develop a reading life and will help build reading stamina. I encourage your teen to read as much as possible throughout the summer months.

I wish you all a wonderful summer!

Happy Reading,
Mrs. Stotz

High School Summer Reading Assignment:

Read 2-3 books that are somehow connected. After you read the books, choose one of the following ways to demonstrate your understanding of the books and their connection. On the first day of class you will present your reading project to your class.

- write a paper
- make a poster
- create a PowerPoint/slide show
- create a website
- blog
- your own really creative, unique idea (just check with Mrs. Stotz first!)

You may pick fiction or nonfiction books that meet your own tastes. You must choose a book appropriate to your reading level, and your parent(s)/guardian(s) must approve of your book choice.

Suggestions for connections:

- choose 2-3 books by one author and analyze how the author's writing changes.
- read 2-3 books from a similar time period
- analyze the prejudices and unspoken values in a series of fantasy novels
- read 2-3 books on the same topic and analyze how the different authors approach the topic.