



St. John's

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

2020 Eighth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Instructions

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For summer reading, you will read a minimum of 20-30 minutes every day. You may choose any book from the summer reading list. You have one book that you are required to read, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor. This should be the last book you read before school begins in September, as we will have assignments related to the book in the beginning of the year.

The Purpose of Summer Reading

Summer reading is critical to a child's ability to retain information learned and to grow in knowledge and critical thinking skills. Many experts believe it is necessary for children to read on a daily basis in order to maintain literacy skills learned in the previous school year. Our goal is that our students nurture the love of reading and develop the habit of reading by allowing them to choose age-appropriate literature for themselves. When they choose books for themselves, they become more engaged in reading and more likely to want to read more.

The Requirements

- Read daily for a minimum of 20-30 minutes.
- Every time you finish a book over the summer, add it to your reading log.
- Write five reading responses in one Google document. These should be spaced approximately two weeks apart. Do not wait until the end of the summer to write the reading responses.
- The reading log and the five reading responses are to be shared with Mr. Buckingham electronically **as they are finished over the summer**.
- Create a video book trailer for one of the books you read over the summer (not the book we all read).

Expectations for reading responses in Reading Journal:

- The Reading Response journal should be completed as one Google document.
- Each entry should be a minimum of 100 words.
- Each response should begin with one of the prompts below. Choose a different prompt for each response.
- You must use details from the book to support your thoughts.
- Each entry must be in a final edited format.
- Use CUPS to revise and edit before submitting.

Each response must be labeled as follows:

- Title of book and author
- Date of entry
- Page numbers covered by the entry

The following are some possible statement starters for you to choose from when you are making your responses, and you must use **five** different prompts. Remember, your journal is an opportunity for you to explore what you think is important.

- Identify the main character and the main conflict the character faces.
- When I finished reading, I thought
- It upset me when
- Describe an important scene in the book.
- How is the main conflict resolved in the story?
- Describe the setting and why it is important in the story.
- What is the main theme of the story? What lessons did you learn from the story?
- The part I liked best
- Give the book you are reading an award (good or bad). Explain why the book deserves the award you created.
- Write a pretend email to the author of the book. Share your thoughts on the story. Ask the author questions.
- Write about how this book relates to your own life. Describe how the characters, settings, and plot connect to you.
- I would like _____ as a friend because
- Write about a character that you admire. What qualities do you admire? What makes the character special?
- Choose an important character in the book. How do they change throughout the story?
- I now understand
- If I were _____, I would
- I predict that.....
- I was shocked when/by
- This part reminds me of
- It seems to me
- I liked the idea that
- I felt
- I know someone like
- It was or was not fair when
- I was surprised
- One thing that confused me was

Expectations for the video book trailer:

- Use WeVideo
- The time limit is 1-3 minutes
- The video is due by the first day of school.

Each video must include the following:

- Music
- Pictures/images that represent characters, plot, theme, or setting of the book
- An important quote from the book that conveys an important message or THEME
- Positive quotes from critics
- Awards that the book won
- Convey important literary terms that are important in the story: SETTING, CHARACTERIZATION, CONFLICTS, ALLUSIONS, METAPHORS, and SIMILES are examples.
- **Do not give away the ending.**

Sample Journal Entry (20 points each = Total 100 points)

	<p>Notes: Write at least 100 words for each journal entry from the novel.</p>
<p><i>The Outsiders</i> by S. E. Hinton June 20, 2020 Pages 1-35</p>	<p>The story begins strong. It tells how the main character, Ponyboy, feels about life in the neighborhood. Right from the beginning, I can tell that his life is not an easy one. The setting reminds me more of New York than of Oklahoma. The way the place is described it seems like Oklahoma, but once it starts talking about gangs, I visualize New York. The characters seem so different, yet so similar. Take Dally; he seems misunderstood. The fact that he is so unlike the others gives him a sense of individuality. My favorite character is Two-Bit because of the way he lightens the mood of all those around him. He is the opposite of Dally. Two-Bit is wise-cracking and funny while Dally is meaner and tougher. Two-Bit's life is not as hard as a life as the rest; he has a home and a mother that loves him. The character I admire so far has to be Johnny. Johnny is quiet and shy. He comes from an abusive home. Johnny is the pet of the gang. To me, it seems like he just wants to be accepted because he isn't accepted in his family. Johnny must be stronger than everybody believes because of what he has gone through at home.</p>
<p><i>The Outsiders</i> By S.E. Hinton July 2, 2020 Pages 55-103</p>	<p>This part reminds me of</p>