



Hello, Incoming 8th Graders,

This is your year! Before entering 8th grade language arts, please spend some time reading and reflecting this summer.

Although summer reading and its extended assignments can seem tedious, please view them as a way to continue garnering information, reading for enjoyment, and avoiding that "summer slide!"

And, now you do have THE TIME (summer time) to depict your thoughts, feelings, and connections that you have with yourself, the text, and the world around you. For you, the reader, they can become an anthology of clarifications, reflections, and potential pieces for writing.

Directions for summer reading:

1. Choose *one novel* from the summer reading list that interests you and read it.
2. Identify a theme from the novel. Remember the formula: Topic + Insight=Theme
3. Write a well-developed 3-5-paragraph essay that supports your claim, your thesis. Give EVIDENCE to support your argument/claim. Yes, use textual evidence. Do not forget where you can find this evidence: explicit statements near the end of the novel, through conflicts, through character development, the title, and motifs.
4. Choose to complete *Wordly Wise*, lessons 12-20 to keep your fabulous minds working. This is optional!

This summer: READ, REFLECT, and RELAX but DO AVOID the "summer slide!"

Summer Reading List

- X* *Bomb: The Race to Build -and Steal- the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* - Steve Sheinkin
- X* *We Were Liars* - E. Lockhart
- * *100 Sideways Miles* - Andrew A. Smith
- * *Code Name Verity* - Elizabeth Wein
- X* *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* - Arthur Conan Doyle

- X* *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* or *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe* - Douglas Adams
- * *Death on the Nile* or *Murder on the Orient Express* - Agatha Christie
- * *Zel* - Donna Jo Napoli
- * *The Hobbit* or *The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, or The Return of the King* - J.R.R. Tolkien
- * *Fallen Angels* - Walter Dean Myers
- * *Rebecca* - Daphne du Maurier
- * *The Diary of Anne Frank* - Anne Frank
- * *The Book Thief* - Marcus Zusak
- * *I am the Cheese* - Robert Cormier
- * *My Life in Dog Years* - Gary Paulson
- * *Into Thin Air* - Jon Krakauer
- * *The Amber Spyglass* or *The Golden Compass* or *The Subtle Knife* - Philip Pullman
- * *Something Wicked This Way Comes* or *The Illustrated Man* - Ray Bradbury
- * *The Hound of the Baskervilles* - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- * *Hoop Dreams* - Ben Joravsky
- * *Warriors Don't Cry* - Melba Pattillo Beals and Anne Greenberg
- * *Dracula* - Bram Stoker
- * *Brown Girl Dreaming* - Jaqueline Woodson
- * *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman* - Ernest J. Gaines
- * *Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter* - Adeline Yen Mah
- * *Speak* - Laurie Halse Anderson
- * *The Joy Luck Club* - Amy Tan
- * *Make Lemonade* - Virginia Euwer Wolff
- * *The Adoration of Jenna Fox* - Mary E. Pearson
- * *Rocket Boys* - Homer H. Hickam Jr.
- * *A Lesson Before Dying* - Ernest J. Gaines
- * *The Hunger Games* - Suzanne Collins
- * *Gym Candy* - Carl Deuke
- * *Between Shades of Gray* - Ruta Sepetys
- * *Sarah's Key* - Tatiana De Rosnay

- * *Flipped* - Wendelin Van Draanen
- * *I Kill the Mockingbird* - Paul Acampora
- * *Titanic: Voices from the Disaster* - Deborah Hopkinson
- * *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights* - Steve Sheinkin