

Middle School Summer Reading List 2018



Our summer reading philosophy at FA is simple: people who read continuously become better readers and writers. With this in mind, Middle School students will read a book in common and a book of their choice. Here are the guidelines:

The Required Book:

- Read the required title and be prepared to complete a graded activity on this book within the first week of school. (no summer essay)

Your Book of Choice:

- Read a book of your choice (note stipulations below). Write a one-page reaction to and interpretation of the book. This essay should include minimal plot summary – instead talk about your reactions (what you liked and did not like, the characters, the themes, point-of-view, setting, ...) Yes, you may use the pronoun "I."
- If you wish, read an additional book and write an additional essay.
- All essays (1 or 2) are due the second day of school.
- You may accumulate up to 7 points, 5 for your book of choice and 2 for an extra book.

Grading rubric: 5 points = a full and well-explained reaction
3 points = half plot summary and half reaction
1 points = almost all plot summary

If you fail to complete the summer reading, you will lose two letter grades from your first assignment.

* Students need to buy the required book and bring it to class to complete the graded work during the first week of school.

6th Grade: ***Book #1:** *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*, Christopher Paul Curtis
Book #2: Read a book of at least 100 pages. ([Check out these ideas](#))

7th Grade: ***Book #1:** *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, Gary D. Schmidt
Book #2: Read a book of at least 125 pages. ([Check out these ideas](#))

8th Grade: ***Book #1:** *The Giver*, Lois Lowry ([see additional handout](#))
Book #2: Read a book of at least 125 pages. ([Check out these ideas](#))

6th Grade Summer Reading Ideas: Students should feel free to select their choice books from this list, but they are not required to do so.

Bud, Not Buddy, Christopher Paul Curtis
Holes, Louis Sachar
Out of the Dust, Karen Hesse
Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Avi
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, Mildred D. Taylor
Heaven, Angela Johnson
Fallen Angels, Walter Dean Myers
Slam, Walter Dean Myers
Her Stories, Virginia Hamilton
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, J. K. Rowling
Freak the Mighty, Rodman Philbrick
Max the Mighty, Rodman Philbrick
Redwall, Brian Jacques
Tangerine, Edward Bloor
Our Only May Amelia, Jennifer L. Holm
Brian's Return, Gary Paulsen
Dogsong, Gary Paulsen
Curses, Inc., Viviane Vande Velde
Red Scarf Girl, Ji Li Jiang
Within Reach: My Everest Story, Mark Pfetzer and Jack Galvin
The Wreckers, Iain Lawrence
The Smugglers, Iain Lawrence
The Kin: Suth's Story, Peter Dickerson

7th and 8th Grade Summer Reading Ideas: Students should feel free to select their choice books from this list, but they are not required to do so.

Holes, Louis Sachar
Esperanza Rising, Pam Munoz Ryan
Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
Milkweed, Jerry Spinelli
Wringer, Jerry Spinelli
Heaven, Angela Johnson
Fallen Angels, Walter Dean Myers
Her Stories, Virginia Hamilton
Any Harry Potter book, J. K. Rowling

Artemis Fowl, Eoin Colfer
Freak the Mighty, Rodman Philbrick
Redwall, Brian Jacques
Tangerine, Edward Bloor
Our Only May Amelia, Jennifer L. Holm
Brian's Return, Gary Paulsen
The Hobbit or The Lord of the Rings trilogy, J. R. R. Tolkien
Red Scarf Girl, Ji Li Jiang
Within Reach: My Everest Story, Mark Pfetzer and Jack Galvin
The Wreckers, Iain Lawrence
The Kin: Suth's Story, Peter Dickerson
Phoenix Rising, Karen Hesse
The Midwife's Apprentice, Karen Cushman
Shabanu, Suzanne Fisher Staples
The Longitude Prize, Joan Dash
The Illustrated Man, Ray Bradbury
Oliver Twist, Charles Dickens
The Subtle Knife series, Philip Pullman