

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOK LIST

6th: Adventure/Journey

Mandatory:

- Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

Student Choices (select ONE):

- Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
- Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
- Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
- The Magician's Nephew by CS Lewis

7th: Coming of Age

Mandatory:

- The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton

Student Choices (select ONE):

- Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
- Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
- Anne of Green Gables by LM Montgomery
- Prince Caspian by CS Lewis

8th: Justice/Good vs. Evil

Mandatory:

- Animal Farm by George Orwell

Student Choices (select ONE):

- Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
- The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis
- The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT

Students in 6th-8th grades will complete the following assignment related to their summer reading books:

- Critical Response Journal for the both books.
- Students will select five different questions to answer for each summer reading book, therefore, answering all ten questions with no questions repeated.
- All journal entries should be neatly hand-written or typed and stapled together with a cover sheet on front indicating the student's name and grade.
- Length of journal responses for each question:
 - 6th grade: 50 words
 - 7th grade: 75 words
 - 8th grade: 100 words
- Each journal response should be labeled with the title of the novel and the specific question being answered
- Students may NOT cut and paste information or answers from an internet source or copy information or answers from any source other than the novel itself.

Due dates for the summer reading assignments:

- Friday, August 17 for students enrolled by July 31, 2018
- Friday, August 31 for students enrolled after July 31, 2018 (mandatory reading selection only, answering 5 questions)

Critical Response Journal Questions

1. Describe one major conflict (problem) in the story with which the protagonist (main character) struggles.
2. Give an example of a specific turning point in the novel. Explain the importance of this event.
3. Select a character and describe how he/she changes from the beginning of the story to the end. How or why does this change take place?
4. What specifically about the way the novel is written makes you like or dislike it? Give some examples from the book.
5. Compare your life as a young person in 2018 with the life of the main character in the book. In your response describe at least 3 specific similarities and 3 specific differences.
6. Choose an object or place in the novel you think is a symbol. What does this object or place represent?
7. What have you learned from this novel? Choose one of the following ideas and explain: A) something about relationships; B) something about history; C) something about virtues or vices
8. How does the protagonist (main character) in this novel compare to the protagonist in the other summer reading book you selected?
9. Where and when is the story set? Why is this important?
10. Reread the first chapter of the novel. What in this chapter alone made you want to continue reading?