

LCA
2010
Summer Reading

ENTERING 6th GRADE

Name _____

2010 Middle School Summer Reading Instructions

Entering 6th Grade

The purpose of summer reading is to acquaint the student with classic pieces of literature.

Instructions:

Students will read the assigned book and complete the attached graphic organizer. The graphic organizer chart in this packet provides a list of details and chapter highlights to be noted in the academic book. In addition to reviewing the details and chapter highlights, students will complete an assessment at the end of the first week of school. Class discussions will secure concepts learned while reading each selection in preparation for the assessment.

Students will also complete a math assignment to be turned in during the first week of school. This, too, will be recorded as a grade.

REQUIRED:

Where the Red Fern Grows

Wilson Rawls

Living a simple life in the Ozarks with his parents and three younger sisters, twelve-year-old Billy's sole desire is to own a pair of Redbone Coonhounds. He begs his parents for the dogs, but they tell him that the family cannot afford coonhounds. One day Billy finds an advertisement in sportsman magazine offering Redbone Coonhounds in Kentucky for \$25.00 each. Billy decides to earn the money himself. For two years, he does many different jobs and finally earns enough money.

NOTE: Complete the graphic organizer and be prepared to turn this in the first day of class, August 5. The assessment will be at the end of the first week.

Mathematics Assignment

Students will also complete a summer math assignment to be turned in during the first week of school. This, too, will be recorded as a grade.

2010 Summer Book Club (This is *not* required reading.)

Do Hard Things

Alex and Brett Harris

A growing movement of young people is rebelling against the low expectations of today's culture by choosing to "do hard things" for the glory of God. Written by teens for teens, *Do Hard Things*, is packed with humorous personal anecdotes, practical examples, and tons of real life rebelutionaries in action. *Do Hard Things* is a revolutionary message in its purest and most compelling form, giving readers a tangible glimpse of what is possible for teens who actively resist cultural lies that limit their potential.

YOU MIGHT ALSO ENJOY:

Book of Three

Lloyd Alexander

Fantasy

Taran dreams of adventure, but nothing exciting ever happens to an Assistant Pig-Keeper until his pig runs away. The chase leads Taran from home and into great danger, for evil prowls in the land of Prydain.

Star of Light

Patricia St. John

Christian Fiction

Learn how God's love can transform lives anywhere—even in a Moroccan marketplace. An Englishwoman transforms the lives of her visiting niece, a blind baby girl, and an eleven-year-old boy through her work as a missionary nurse. In *Star of Light*, Hamid and Kinza run away to begin a strange new life.

The Westing Game

Ellen Raskin

Mystery

Sixteen residents of the Sunset Towers apartment complex find out mysteriously that they are potential heirs to a million-dollar fortune. To receive the money they must work in pairs to find out which one of the sixteen residents murdered their benefactor.

Catherine Called Birdy

Karen Cushman

Historical Fiction

Through her diary, a fictional 14-year-old girl from the year 1290 writes about her life and her place in medieval society. This unusual book provides an insider's look at the life of Birdy, the daughter of a minor English nobleman. She looks with a clear and critical eye upon the world around her, telling of the people she knows and of the daily events in her small manor house.

The Swiss Family Robinson

Johann Wyss

Adventure/Classic

One family will emerge alive from this terrible storm: the Robinsons -- a Swiss pastor, his wife, and four sons, plus two dogs and a shipload of livestock, hens, pigeons and geese. Inspired by Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*, this heartwarming tale portrays a family's struggle to create a new life for themselves on a strange and fantastic tropical island.

Circle of Seven

Bryan Davis

Fantasy

Billy Bannister and his fellow dragon comrades, Bonnie Silver and Ashley, are thrust into another adventure when they travel to England. They soon are faced with new enemies in the deadly New Table Knights and Morgan Le Faye. Billy and Bonnie enter a new dimension called the Circles of Seven- on account of there being seven circles they will be required to go through- while Ashley, Walter, and the Professor do their best to help them from the outside. In the Circles, things are not always what they seem, and danger constantly surrounds Billy and Bonnie. Guided only with the words of Merlin's poems, the courageous duo will face their greatest trials yet.

Student _____
Class _____

2010 Summer Reading
Entering 6th Grade
Where the Red Fern Grows

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Chapter(s)	Chapter Highlights	Reader Response
1		Describe the dog fight.
2		Describe the main conflict of chapter 2.
3		How has Billy changed or grown since the beginning of the book?
4-5		Based on the story, it is likely that in the future...
6		Describe how Billy decides to name his dogs.

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7		Describe how Billy Colman trains his hounds.
8		Describe the similarities and differences between Old Dan and Little Ann.
9		What lesson does Billy learn at the end of this chapter?
10-11		Describe the scene in which Billy rescues his dogs.
12-13		How did you feel about Grandpa accepting the Pritchards' bet? Explain the reasons for your feelings.
14-15		Predict how Old Dan and Little Ann will do in the hunting competition.

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16-18		Explain the loyalty that Old Dan and Little Ann have for each other.
19		What would you say to Billy during his time of grief?
20		Explain the legend of the red fern.

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ENTERING 7th GRADE

Name _____

2010 Middle School Summer Reading Instructions

Entering 7th Grade

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Students will also complete a math assignment to be turned in during the first week of school. This, too, will be recorded as a grade.

REQUIRED:

Changing Tides

Catherine Hapka

Samuel Gates has always been drawn to tales of brave explorers and far off lands. But stories are not enough to live on when, in 1612, the Gates family loses everything. To help restore their reputation and seek a new fortune, Samuel, along with his brother William, must leave the familiar streets of London for an uncertain world- the Americas.

As he crosses the Atlantic, Samuel meets a man who speaks of a hidden treasure somewhere in the Jamestown colony. However, before Samuel can decipher his garbled message, the man mysteriously dies. Now, with only a letter and a few cryptic clues to go on, Samuel finds himself caught up in a hunt that goes back to the very beginnings of the New World—to Roanoake and a vanished colony.

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Mathematics Assignment

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2010 Summer Book Club (This is *not* required reading.)

Do Hard Things

Alex and Brett Harris

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YOU MIGHT ALSO ENJOY:

Murder on the Orient Express

Agatha Christie

Mystery

Just after midnight, a snowdrift stopped the Orient Express in its tracks. The luxurious train was surprisingly full for the time of year. But by the morning, the group was one passenger less. An American lay dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside.

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

Jules Verne

Classic

Three men are taken captive by Nemo, the mad, mysterious captain of a strange submarine. They embark on a journey full of fantastic sea creatures and dangerous adventures.

The Hiding Place

Corrie Ten Boom

Historical Non-Fiction

Corrie ten Boom was a leader in the Dutch Underground during WWII. With the aid of her family, she hid scores of Jews from the Nazi invaders. She was arrested along with every member of her family, spending the remaining war years in concentration camps.

Pearls of Lutra

Brian Jacques

Fantasy

Ublaz Mad Eyes, an evil pirate emperor, can't wait to steal the six pearls of Lutra for his crown. The pearls are hidden in Redwall Abbey, and hedgehog Tansy and her friends are determined to thwart the evil Ublaz. Meanwhile, Warriormouse Martin and hare Clecky join forces to rescue the kidnapped Abbot.

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2010 Summer Reading
Entering 7th Grade
Changing Tides

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Chapter(s)	Chapter Highlights	Reader Response
1		Describe the scene between Elias and Sam.
2		What do you think causes Sam to turn down Jasper's offer?
3-4		Describe how Sam feels he would be able to decode the clues?
5		What do you predict will happen to Sam?
6		Describe Hal and Liz.

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7		What was Liz's secret?
8		Compare the characters of Sam and Hal.
9-10		How do Hal and Sam save each other's lives?
11		What do you predict will happen to William?
12-13		Explain the dilemma Sam is facing regarding Liz.
14		Explain why Sam is disappointed when he sees the headdress.

Student _____

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15-17		What do you think Sam, Liz, and Hal will do with the contents of the metal box?
18-19		How do Liz and Sam get the coin back from Jasper?
20-21		Where does the clue from the cannon lead the treasure hunters?
22-23		Describe how Sam feels about the treasure and the idea of dividing it.
24		Why do the Powhatans return the English items?

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ENTERING 8th GRADE

Name _____

2010 Middle School Summer Reading Instructions

Entering 8th Grade

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REQUIRED:

Under the Same Sky

Cynthia DeFelice

Joe Pedersen, 14, begrudgingly joins the migrant workers on his father's upstate New York farm to earn the \$1000 he needs to buy a Thunderbird motorbike. Determined to show his father he can keep pace with Manuel, the 16-year-old crew boss, Joe painfully acclimates to the grueling routine of planting, hoeing, and weeding cabbages and picking strawberries. When immigration officials suddenly arrive at the farm, Joe discovers the fragile status of three workers who carry false papers in a desperate attempt to support their families back in Mexico. Previously insensitive to the plight of the migrants, Joe begins to grasp the hardships, uncertainty, loyalty, and courage of these laborers who are often ridiculed and threatened by his peers and other whites in the community.

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Mathematics Assignment

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2010 Summer Book Club (This is *not* required reading.)

Do Hard Things

Alex and Brett Harris

A growing movement of young people is rebelling against the low expectations of today's culture by choosing to "do hard things" for the glory of God. Written by teens for teens, *Do Hard Things*, is packed with humorous personal anecdotes, practical examples, and tons of real life rebelutionaries in action. *Do Hard Things* is a revolutionary message in its purest and most compelling form, giving readers a tangible glimpse of what is possible for teens who actively resist cultural lies that limit their potential.

YOU MIGHT ALSO ENJOY:

Across Five Aprils

Historical Fiction

This novel portrays the conflicts created by the Civil War from the point of view of Jethro, a boy from the middle of the country. As friends, family members, and his teacher take sides in the war, go in separate directions, and in some cases sacrifice their lives, Jethro has to try to figure out where he stands on the issues and where his loyalties lie.

Irene Hunt

She Said, Yes: The Unlikely Martyrdom of Cassie Burnall

Nonfiction

A moving memoir written by Cassie's mother, Misty Bernall, we meet the real Cassie, a victim of the Columbine tragedy. Once headed down the common teenage path of self-loathing and depression, we read about how Cassie turned her life around through her faith and the support of a group of people who helped her find peace and purpose--her youth group at church.

Misty Bernall

While Mortals Sleep

Historical Fiction

In 1939, Pastor Josef Schumacher's native Germany has become a nightmare of Nazi activism spreading its poisonous grip throughout his congregation and infecting the bright teenagers he has watched grow up. When one of his teens turns in his own father for listening to BBC broadcasts, an action that results in the man's execution, Josef can no longer remain uninvolved.

Jack Cavanaugh

One Corpse too Many

Mystery

A Mystery Guild Alternate Selection in the summer of 1138, fighting engulfs Shrewsbury as King Stephen battles the Empress Maud for the throne of England. When Shrewsbury Castle falls and its 94 defenders are hanged as traitors, Brother Cadfael is called upon to administer last rites to the dead. But his careful count reveals 95 corpses, and once again the sleuthing monk is on the trail of a murderer, this time aided by a lovely young fugitive.

Ellis Peters

The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe

Classic

Robinson Crusoe is shipwrecked and lives as a castaway on a desert island for thirty years. He survives because of his courage, ingenuity, and his faith in God. On the island he rescues a man named Friday, and together they experience many hair-raising adventures.

Daniel Defoe

Red

Fantasy

Red, the second of Ted Dekker's series, centers around the heroic rescue attempts of Thomas Hunter to save both worlds. With the devastating realization that he has unleashed death into both worlds, he now must figure out how to undo this evil, while trying to save his true love. From meeting with world powers in one world to leading a small band of mighty warriors in the great forests of the other world, Thomas is determined to change the history of two realities or sacrifice all in trying.

Ted Dekker

NOTE: Must have read the book *Black* prior to reading *Red*.

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2010 Summer Reading
Entering 8th Grade
Under the Same Sky

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Chapter(s)	Chapter Highlights	Reader Response
1 - 3		In chapters 1 - 3, Joe <i>needs</i> something and his father comes up with a plan for him to get it. What is the difference between need and want? How would you react to the plan? Be specific.
4		As the boss' son, how should Joe get treated?
5		Why did Joe get upset when he and his friends were at the mall and his friend started talking about the Mexican guys? Whom do you defend to your friends? Why?
6		In chapter 6, what plot action changes how the workers feel about Joe? How does Joe feel about his relationship with the workers at that point?

Student _____

Class _____

7 - 8		Explain how Joe's pay helps change his attitude toward his work.
9 - 11		Pick one event from these chapters. Name it and discuss how it affected you personally.
12		What does Joe learn about his dad in this chapter? What is his reaction to it?
13		At what age is it safe to leave a child home alone overnight?
14 - 16		Explain what Joe learns through the incident with the <i>migra</i> .

Student _____
Class _____

17		What is happening with the relationship between Joe and his “best friends” and why?
18 – 20		What is Joe so concerned about doing before his parents leave for the reunion? Why?
21 – 22		With whom do you identify more, Joe or his friends, Randy and Tony? Why?
23 - 28		Describe the climax? Would you have done what Joe did? Why or why not?

Be prepared to discuss the following. Use the space or another sheet of paper to jot down a few notes or page numbers.

1. Themes, plot, and conflicts
2. Explain how Joe’s older sister, LuAnn, changes her opinion of her brother.
3. What things happen in *Under the Same Sky* that change Joe’s opinion about his friend Randy?
4. Do you think Luisa and the others make the correct decision in leaving Joe’s farm when threatened by the INS?
5. What is the significance of the book’s title?