

## **St. Stephen's School Summer Reading for Grades 6, 7, and 8**

Dear Parents and Students,

This year for summer reading, students who are entering grades 6, 7, and 8 will be required to read **two** books. In addition to the mandatory book for each grade, students should choose another book from the list for his/her specific grade. The lists for each grade and assignment are attached. By the end of the summer, each student entering grades 6, 7, and 8 should have read two books and completed an assignment for each one.

Students should read carefully and put a good effort into the assignments. Only a student's best work will be accepted! The assignments for all grades will be **due Friday, September 13, 2019**.

Reading is essential for learning and growing. Newspapers and magazines can also make for great reading material. Remember to read in a quiet, comfortable setting: by the pool, in the hammock, in the lazy-boy, or wherever your summer takes you! I look forward to discussing these books with all of you in the fall. I hope everyone has a fun, safe summer!

Sincerely,

Ms. Snyder

ELA 6-8

P.S. I will periodically check email over the summer. If you have any questions regarding the books or assignments, please email me at: [snyderk@ststephensgi.org](mailto:snyderk@ststephensgi.org).

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." -Dr. Seuss

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## Summer Reading Book List for Students Entering Grade 6

### ***Mandatory book for students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade:***

*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor

(Choose **one** in addition to the mandatory book)

*The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen

*The Story of My Life: Helen Keller* by Helen Keller

*My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George

*The River* by Gary Paulsen

*Running Out of Time* By Margaret Peterson Haddix

*The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin

*Close to Famous* by Joan Bauer

*The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis

*The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder

*The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis

*My Friend the Enemy* by J.B. Cheaney

*Heartbeat* by Sharon Creech

*Weird Weather: Everything You Didn't Want to Know About Climate Change, But Probably Should*

*Find Out* By Kate Evans

*Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion* By Loree Griffin Burns

*Power: Ethical Debates About Resources and the Environment* By Kate Ravilious

## Summer Reading Book List for Students Entering Grade 7

### ***Mandatory book for students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade:***

*Lyddie* by Katherine Paterson

(Choose **one** in addition to the mandatory book)

*Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep

*Sophia's War* by Avi

*I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)* by Malala Yousafzai

*Weedflower* by Cynthia Kadohata

*Double Identity* by Margaret Peterson Haddix

*Bound* by Donna Jo Napoli

*Someone Named Eva* by Joan M. Wolf

*Shooting the Moon* by Francis O'Roarke Dowell

*Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*The Voice That Changed a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights* by Russell Freedman

*So B. It* by Sarah Weeks

*Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick

*The Skin I'm In* by Sharon G. Flake

*Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass : the story behind an American friendship* by Russell Freedman

*Savvy* by Ingrid Law

*Crash* by Jerry Spinelli

*Laika* by Nick Abadzis

*The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, and Treachery* by Steve Sheinkin

## Summer Reading Book List for Students Entering Grade 8

### ***Mandatory book for students entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade:***

*Witness* by Karen Hesse

(Choose **one** in addition to the mandatory book)

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*Behind Rebel Lines* by Seymour Reit

*Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, Young Readers Edition* by William Kamkwamba

*Hidden Figures, Young Readers Edition* by Margot Lee Shetterly

*Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson

*Time of the Witches* by Anna Myers

*Do the Math: Secrets, Lies, and Algebra* by Wendy Lichtman

*Children of the Great Depression* by Russell Freedman

*Code Talker: A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War II* by Joseph Bruchac

*Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls Mystery* by Peter Abrahams

*Niner* by Theresa Martin Golding

*Woods Runner* by Gary Paulsen

*Invasion* by Walter Dean Myers

*Behind Enemy Lines: A Young Pilot's Story* by H. R. DeMallie

*Eleanor's Story: An American Girl in Hitler's Germany* by Eleanor Ramrath Garner

*Moonbird : A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95* by Phillip Hoose

*Disasters: Natural and Man-Made Catastrophes Through the Centuries* by Brenda Z. Guiberson

*Call of the Wild* by Jack London

## **Summer Reading Assignment for ALL GRADES (6-8)**

Complete these assignments before, during, and after you read both of your books. You must complete **BOTH parts 1 and 2 for both books**. When you bring your finished assignment to school, please make sure everything is put together neatly and in an organized way. For example, everything is written in a notebook. Another example, type or write on loose-leaf and staple all of your pages together or put them in a folder. Please label each part with the title and author of the book.  
Date your journal entries!

**PART 1 - JOURNAL:** Keep a journal as you read both books.

- 1.) Write one (1) entry before you read each book (see below).
  
- 2.) Choose seven (7) "during reading" journal prompts for each book (see below). You should space out your "during reading" journal entries approximately every 30 pages.
  
- 3.) Choose two (2) "after reading" prompts for each book (see below).
  
- 4.) In total, when you are all finished, you should have ten (10) entries per book. Your grand total for both books will be twenty (20) journal entries.
  
- 5.) Each journal entry must be approximately a half page in length (about a paragraph, or 5-7 complete, thoughtful sentences) on loose-leaf paper, or you may use a notebook. You may type them when you are finished, but you are not required to do so. Label the title and author at the beginning of your journal for each book, and write the date at the top of each entry. Use a variety of the sentence starter prompts in the list on the next page.

**Journal Entry Prompts:**

Before Reading:	-Based on the title and cover, I think this book will be about...
During Reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-One trait I notice in the main character/person is...</li> <li>-One funny/exciting part is...</li> <li>-One part of the story I can connect to is...</li> <li>-I was shocked when...</li> <li>-I laughed when...</li> <li>-I cried when...</li> <li>-One part that confused me...</li> <li>-I think the setting (time and place) affects the story by...</li> <li>-My favorite scene so far is...</li> <li>-One character/person I like is...</li> <li>-One character/person I dislike is...</li> <li>-I think the main conflict or problem in the book is...</li> <li>-I felt sad when...</li> <li>-I felt angry when...</li> <li>-I felt happy when...</li> <li>-I wonder why...</li> <li>-One scene that was suspenseful was...</li> <li>-One situation that reminded me of something I experienced is...</li> <li>-One character that I admire is...</li> <li>-One scene that reminded me of another book I read or movie I saw is...</li> <li>-One (or more) sentence that stood out to me was... because...</li> <li>-If I could meet one character/person from the book, I would choose...because...</li> </ul>
After Reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-I would rate this book...stars out of five because...</li> <li>-I would recommend this book to others because...</li> <li>-One character/person I admire most is...</li> <li>-The main theme, or lesson, of this book is...</li> </ul>

**PART 2 - VOCABULARY:** As you read each book, find as many new and unfamiliar words as you can. Label this, Summer Reading Vocabulary. You can write this in the same notebook as your journal.

1.) Students entering 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Find twenty (20) words and create a word chart. Type or write the word, context clues, your definition, and a dictionary definition. You must find twenty words total for both books. That means your vocabulary chart will contain words from both books you are reading.

2.) Students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Find ten (10) new words and write or type them, and then look up the word in the dictionary and record the definition. You must find ten words total for both books. That means your vocabulary chart will contain words from both books you are reading.

\*\*Lastly, make sure your **name, grade, due date, and subject** are clearly visible on the top or front of your final product. Remember, I will only collect projects that follow directions, and are neat and organized. Both parts of the project - journal and vocabulary - will be collected together. Please do your best!\*\*

\*\*\*BONUS! Of course, you are encouraged to read more than the required two books. As a bonus, you can keep track of the other books you read over the summer. Write about them in your journal, or keep a list of the titles and authors of the books you read. Guess what? Movies are stories, too! Write about any age appropriate movies you see over the summer, or keep a list.\*\*\*

