

St. Mary's School Summer Reading List ~ Gr.6

The national standard is to read 25 books each year (12-month period). We suggest that our students read at least 2 books a month during the year to achieve this goal.

The summer reading assignment for the incoming sixth graders at St. Mary's School will be to choose 4 books to read from the following list. You will find 3 worksheets attached to the reading list. These sheets, along with a hand-drawn illustration for 1 book, will be due during the first week of school. Illustrations should be original work and will be graded on effort and correlation to the book, not on artistic ability.

BOOK LIST	AUTHOR
Jacob Have I Loved	Katherine Paterson
A Wrinkle in Time	Madeleine L'Engle
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak
Esperanza Rising	Pam Munoz Ryan
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle	Avi
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Mildred D. Taylor
Shiloh	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Crispin: the Cross of Lead	Avi
Because of Winn-Dixie	Kate Di Camillo
Macaroni Boy	Katherine Ayres
Peter and the Starcatchers	Dave Barry

The Girl with the Glass Bird	Esme Kerr
Echo	Pam Munoz Ryan
A Handful of Stars	Cynthia Lord
Mark of the Thief	Jennifer A. Nielsen
Close to the Wind	Jon Walter
The Best Friend Bat	Lindsey Eyre
The Way Home Looks Now	Wendy Wan-Long Shang
Hope Was Here	Joan Bauer
All Fall Down	Ally Carter
Backlash	Sarah Darer Littman
Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance	Jennifer Armstrong
Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech
The World at her Fingertips: The Story of Helen Keller	Paula Danziger
Redwall	Brian Jacques
Silent to the Bone	E. L. Konigsburg
Nightjohn	Gary Paulsen
The Upstairs Room	Johanna Reiss
Wringer	Jerry Spinelli
Izzy, Willy-Nilly	Cynthia Voigt

Summer Reading Work Sheet

Please complete both sides of this sheet and attach your book illustration.

You may use additional lined paper if you require extra space.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

Publisher: _____

Book Genre: _____

(Type: example: fantasy, historical fiction, sci-fi, realistic fiction, etc.)

What is the setting (when and where) of the book? How does the setting effect the story?

Who is the narrator? (Whose voice is telling the story?)

Who are the main characters? Describe them.

Describe the plot of the story, listing the main events in chronological order. Please use paragraph format.

Would you recommend the book? Why or why not? Be specific. Please do not say, "It was great, or it was boring." Explain what made the book interesting or boring.

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Consider these Elements of a Book as you read:

CHARACTERS: Who are the main characters? How did one character change in the course of the book? What is the most important relationship in the book, and why?

SETTING: What time and place did the author choose to set the book in? How is the choice of setting appropriate?

EXPOSITION: Early in the book, the exposition introduces the setting, important background information, and the main characters. How does the author suggest and reveal this information in the early chapters?

FORESHADOWING: Sometimes the author leaves hints early in the story of what will happen later. Can you find examples of foreshadowing in your book?

CONFLICT: Most books are based around one central conflict or problem. What is the conflict in your book?

CLIMAX AND RESOLUTION: At what point in the book did the action reach a peak? How did the problem get resolved during and after the climax?

STYLE: Did the author use a particular style that captured the essence of the book (for example, humor or unusual expressions)?

AND FINALLY:

Did you like the book? Would you recommend it to a friend? Why, or why not? How was the book good? Were parts of the book disappointing, and why? Some books can really get to you and almost be disturbing. Can a disturbing book that doesn't leave the reader feeling good still be a good book?

MAKE IT LOOK NICE!

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