

**Summer Reading List
Entering Grade 8
2018 (Jacques/Wilson)**

Select and read two books from different categories from the list of titles below. Use specific story details to complete the 5 W's and 1H organizer. Be sure to include as much detail as possible when completing the organizers as they will be used to complete an activity and to develop an essay during the first week of school. The organizer and summary will be graded using the attached rubrics.

Realistic Fiction

Okay for Now by Gary D. Schmidt

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck has just moved to a small town. With the help of an unlikely new friend, Lil, and a local librarian, Doug struggles to prove to the town that he is not just another thug. He learns to deal with his abusive father and to cope with the return of a brother scarred by the horrors he experienced in Vietnam. (L850)

Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan

Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for homeschooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy. Once there, he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had. (L820)

As Simple as It Seems by Sarah Weeks

Verbena Colter knows she's bad news. How could she not be with parents like hers? Verbie's mother left her to struggle with the effects of fetal alcohol syndrome while her father was just plain mean. Enter Pooch, a flatlander boy visiting for the summer. When Pooch and his mom rent the house next door, Verbie takes the opportunity to be someone else entirely. (L910)

Historical Fiction

The Winter People by Joseph Bruchac

Fourteen-year-old Saxso, a member of the Abenaki tribe in Canada, embarks on a dangerous rescue mission when his mother and two younger sisters are taken hostage during an attack by the British on their unprotected village in 1759. Set during the French and Indian War, the story brings to light the horrifying, unfair treatment of native people as colonists fought to define the American and Canadian landscape. (L800)

How I Found the Strong by Margaret McMullan

Frank is left behind as his father and older brother join the southern cause during the Civil War. It becomes harder for Frank and his mother to scrounge for food and water as the war rages on. In his father's absence, Frank's friendship with Buck, the family slave, grows. He questions more and more who the true enemy is and why the war is really being fought. (L860)

The Wave by Todd Strasser

The novel dramatizes an incident that took place in a California school in 1969. A teacher creates an experimental movement in his class to help students understand how people could have followed Hitler. From the experiment emerges a highly disciplined group that resembles the Nazi party. The fall-out of the lesson will force all involved to examine their own principles and, ultimately, question the strength of their character. (L770)

Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Mischief is Tom Sawyer's middle name. There is nothing he likes better than playing hooky from school, messing about on the Mississippi with his best friend, the hobo Huckleberry Finn, or wooing the elusive beauty Becky Thatcher. Lazy and reckless, he is a menace to his Aunt Polly. But the innocent adventures end suddenly when Tom and Huck witness a murder in the graveyard. Should they tell what they saw or should they 'keep mum' and risk letting an innocent man go to the gallows? (L970)

Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard

Mare Barrow's world is divided by the color of its citizens' blood. Those with Red blood serve the Silver bloods who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a rural village, until it is discovered she has the same abilities as the Silvers. To cover up this impossibility, the king forces her to play the role of a lost Silver princess. One wrong move could lead to her death. (L740)

Shadow Children Series by Margaret Peterson Haddix

-Among the Hidden, Among the Imposters, Among the Betrayed, Among the Barons, Among the Brave, Among the Enemy, Among the Free-

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke Garner and other "thirds" (whose very existence is a capital crime) struggle to stay hidden and to gain the right to live. (L770)

Poetry

Paper Hearts by Me Wiviott

Making a birthday card in Auschwitz was seen as an act of defiance. Despite this danger, Zlatka made one, in 1944, for her best friend, Fania. She stole and bartered for paper and scissors, secretly creating an origami heart. This novel is based on the true story of Fania and Zlatka, the story of the bond that helped them both to hope for the best in the face of the worst. (L600)

American Ace by Marilyn Nelson

Connor's grandmother leaves his dad a letter when she dies stating the man who raised him is not his birth father. The only clues to the identity of his biological father is a class ring and a pair of pilot's wings. And so, Connor takes it upon himself to investigate. His pursuit becomes even more pressing when his Dad is hospitalized after a stroke. (L780)

Nonfiction

George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring That Saved The American Revolution by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yeager

This fascinating book takes readers into the secret world behind the Revolutionary War in which they will follow the escapades of spies and intelligence agents of the time. Readers will learn about the methods used in early wartime espionage. (L1100)

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

I bet you think of Benedict Arnold as just a traitor to the Patriot cause during the Revolutionary War. What you may not have known is that Arnold started out as one of America's greatest war heroes. Learn what motivated Benedict Arnold to turn from a Patriot ally to a traitor. (L990)

The following options are acceptable with additional approval.

Realistic Fiction

Hideout by Watt Key

Sam has been given a fishing boat by his father, but he hates fishing. Instead he uses the boat to explore the forbidden swampy surroundings of his bayou home. Then he discovers a strange kid named Davey, mysteriously alone, repairing an abandoned cabin deep in the woods. Sam becomes entangled in his own efforts to help Davey. But this leads him to telling small lies that only get bigger. (L630)

Historical Fiction

The Fighting Ground by Avi

Thirteen-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers the real war is being fought within himself. (L580)

Science Fiction

The Wish by Gail Carson

Levine Wilma, granted her wish to be the most popular girl in school, forgets that she will graduate from eighth grade in three weeks. Upon graduation her popularity will vanish. (L490)

Nonfiction

Which Way to the Wild West? Everything Your School Books Didn't Tell You About Westward Expansion by Steve Sheinkin

This is a chronological medley of anecdotes about the Wild West in nine chapters starting with the Louisiana Purchase and ending with the Lakota massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890. The author shares stories of famous figures and ordinary people to bring to life the adventure and daring of those who conquered the West. (L940)

Name _____

Date _____

**Summer Reading Activity
Entering Grade 8 - 2018**

Realistic Fiction, Historical Fiction, Science Fiction, Poetry

Review the following questions and take notes in complete sentences as you read. Your notes should be concrete with specific details, as you will be allowed to use these notes for the in-class assessments on the books you have read. Use additional paper if needed.

Chosen Novel: _____

Author: _____

5 W's and 1 How Question Frame

WHO was the protagonist (main character): _____

A. Describe the character's physical traits (looks, mode of dress, etc.).

Describe in detail here: _____

B. Assign three personality traits to the character and provide quotes from the novel in support of your choices.

Personality Trait	Quotes From the Novel (with page numbers)

WHAT was the conflict (problem) in the novel? Circle: Internal External

Describe in detail here: _____

WHERE did the majority of the story take place (setting)? Circle: Urban Rural Suburban

Describe in detail here: _____

WHEN did the story take place? Circle: Past Present Future

Describe in detail here: _____

WHY was the conflict a problem/challenge for the main character?

HOW did the main character try to solve his/her problem?

Theme - What lesson did the main character learn that readers are meant to learn?

SUMMARY: Please write a summary of the information in the organizer in no less than two paragraphs (12 sentences). This can be done on a separate piece of lined paper or typed.

Name _____

Date _____

Summer Reading List Entering Grade 8- 2018
Nonfiction ONLY

Review the following questions and take notes in complete sentences as you read. Your notes should be concrete with specific details, as you will be allowed to use these notes for the in-class assessments on the books you have read. Use additional paper if needed.

Chosen Novel: _____

Author: _____

Topic of the novel in your own words: _____

Author's Purpose - Circle: Persuade Inform Entertain

What does the author want us to take away (understand) about the topic based on the book in its entirety?

Main Idea One (Hint - this is usually the focus of a chapter):	
Key Detail & Page #:	Key Detail & Page #:
Key Detail & Page #:	Key Detail & Page #:

Main Idea Two (Hint - this is usually the focus of a chapter):	
Key Detail & Page #:	Key Detail & Page #:
Key Detail & Page #:	Key Detail & Page #:

Main Idea Three (Hint - this is usually the focus of a chapter):	
Key Detail & Page #:	Key Detail & Page #:
Key Detail & Page #:	Key Detail & Page #:

SUMMARY: Please write a summary of the information in the organizer in no less than two paragraphs (12 sentences). This can be done on a separate piece of lined paper or typed.

Summer Reading Fiction Rubric

Worksheet Completion

Notes:

All Elements are Filled-in	3- Always	2- Sometimes	1- Rarely	0- Not at All
All Elements are Accurate	3- Always	2- Sometimes	1- Rarely	0- Not at All

Fiction Summary Checklist

Review your summary and be sure it includes all elements of the plot:

- Exposition: protagonist, setting, problem
- Rising Action: three key events, turning point
- Climax
- Falling Action: one event
- Resolution: how do things change, what does the protagonist learn (theme)

4	3	2	1
The student has included all elements of a fiction summary.	The student is missing 1-2 elements of the summary.	The student is missing 3-4 elements of the summary.	The student is missing most of the summary.

Total Score: ____ /10= ____ %

**Summer Reading
Nonfiction Rubric**

Worksheet Completion

Notes:

All Elements are Filled-in	3- Always	2- Sometimes	1- Rarely	0- Not at All
All Elements are Accurate	3- Always	2- Sometimes	1- Rarely	0- Not at All

Fiction Summary Checklist

Review your summary and be sure it includes all elements of the plot:

- Topic identified
- Author's purpose is correctly identified
- 3 Main ideas are identified
- 4 Key details for each main idea are given

4	3	2	1
The student has included all elements of a nonfiction summary.	The student is missing 1-2 elements of the summary.	The student is missing 3-4 elements of the summary.	The student is missing most of the summary.

Total Score: ____/8= ____%