

Summer Reading - Rising Seventh Grade - 2011/12

Reading is one of the most fundamental factors in academic success and is basic to all areas of the curriculum. Summer reading is a valuable experience and is intended to be ENJOYABLE as well as thought provoking. One of the themes in seventh grade literature is personal discovery. Additionally, part of the seventh grade social studies curriculum involves the study of the formation of our country. Over the summer, students are assigned to read the following two novels:

Part I: Please read the following **two** novels:

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson

The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau

After reading each novel, please complete ONE of the following for EACH book.

- * If you had an opportunity to talk with the main character of the book, what might you discuss; what advice would you give him/her? Write a paper discussing your conversation – much like a newspaper reporter. (One page, typed, double-spaced).
- * Select an important scene, incident, or moment from the book and explain why it is important to the overall story. Use quotes and/or excerpts from the book (be sure to cite page number) to support your ideas. (One page, typed, double-spaced.)
- * Plot line -- Make a "time-line" that identifies, in order, the key elements of the story from beginning to end. **HINT:** You can tell a key event from a minor one if you ask yourself, "If this did not occur, would the outcome of the story be the same?" If the answer is "no," then it is probably a key event.
- * List important setting elements from your story. Be sure to include the page number that shows where you found your information. After compiling at least three different settings, with support from your book, please draw your favorite scene and answer the following questions: This scene is where? It's my favorite scene because... Please attach the written work (the list of three settings (with explanation) and your favorite scene/setting (and WHY it's your favorite) choice – TYPED) to the BACK of your drawing. Please use color and LOTS of detail for your drawing. A viewer should be able to "see" the scene, by viewing your drawing.
- * Compare your novel to another novel, of the same genre (i.e. *Fever 1793* is historical fiction and could be compared to *Catherine, Called Birdy, A Single Shard*, or any other historical fiction book. *City of Ember* is fantasy, mystery, suspense and could be compared to *Tuck Everlasting, Hunger Games*, or another book of this genre). What are the similarities and differences; did you prefer one, why or why not. (At least one page, typed, double-spaced.)

Part II

In addition to the two novels, please choose one non-fiction work about a topic of interest to you. Please do NOT select a biography, autobiography or memoir. You may wish to pursue an interest in art, geography, ecology, ancient civilizations (such as Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece), Middle Ages, Renaissance, World War I or II, Vietnam, the space program, etc.

Please compile a list of "answers" and "questions" (just like on *Jeopardy!*) about your topic -- a table is included for your compilation. You will need a minimum of nine answers/questions. Please try to use information you think your classmates would find interesting. We will use this information for a presentation at the start of school.

Part III

Reading log -- please record the other books you read over the summer on the attached reading log. You will have minimum of three books! Be sure to include books, magazine articles, and books listened to on tape/CD -- anything that keeps you reading! Enjoy!

We encourage parents to join their child in reading the selected books as well as engage in discussions and conversations about them. If your student struggles, listening to books on tape as you travel or reading aloud (yes, even to 7th graders!) is a great way to encourage reluctant readers.

Please complete ALL assignments that accompany your reading. All assignments are due the first day back to school, on August 29th.

OPTIONAL EXTRA CREDIT IN SCIENCE (Summer 2011) (from Mrs. Regelbrugge)

Option 1 – Science in the Summer

Summer is the perfect season for Science. As additional optional extra credit, visit a science museum (such as the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum, Arts and Industries, or Air and Space Museum or National Geographic here in DC, the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, the New York Hall of Science in New York, or the Exploratorium in San Francisco) and/or conduct some science experiments. For each one of these activities you undertake, do a one-half to one-page write up explaining what you did, where, what was most interesting to you and why, and what you learned from the experience. Each of these will be worth up to 20 bonus points, depending on the quality.

Option 2 – Reading and Writing about Real Scientists

A biography is a book someone writes about another person, and an autobiography is a book someone writes about his or her own life. Read two biographies or autobiographies about scientists or inventors, and then complete an essay that compares and contrasts those two people. Your essay must include:

- Introductory paragraph introducing the two people you read about, when and where they lived, and why these two people are significant (why are there books about them).
- Two paragraphs about each person that summarize highlights from their lives, including their scientific work and achievements.
- Three to five paragraphs that compare and contrast the two people (similarities and differences).
- One to two paragraphs about how their lives were similar to and different from your own.
- A closing paragraph that tells what you found most interesting about each person.
- Bibliography of the two books you read that includes the title, author, publisher, and publishing date of each book.

Students who complete this assignment at a level of quality that is average will receive 25-50 bonus points; if the level of quality is high, you may receive up to 100 bonus points at the start of your 7th grade year.

**Diocesan Reading List
Grades 7 and 8
Revised 2005/06**

| Author | Title | Copyright date | Genre | Age | Setting / Ethnicity | Character Values |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| **Denotes Caldecott Winner | | | | | | |
| Alexander, Lloyd | Chronicles of Prydain | 1999 | Fantasy | 10+ | | |
| Alvarez, Julia | In the Time of the Butterflies | 1994 | | 13+ | | |
| Anderson, LaVere | Martha Washington: First Lady of the Land | 1991 | Biography | | | |
| Angelou, Maya | Maya Angelou: Poems | 1997 | Poetry | 13+ | African- | |
| Armstrong, William | Sounder** | 1969 | Historical | 14+ | | |
| Asimov, Isaac | I, Robot series | 1967 | Science Fiction | | | |
| Avi | Crispin** | 2002 | Historical Fiction | | Medieval | |
| Avi | The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle** | 2003 | Historical/Sea Stories | 13+ | 1800 Trans- | |
| Babbitt, Natalie | Tuck Everlasting | 1975 | | All | | |
| Baldwin, James | George Washington | | Biography | 12+ | | Yes |
| Banfield, Susan | Joan of Arc | 1985 | Biography | 12+ | | Yes |
| Battistella, Bruna | Mary from Nazareth | 1996 | Religious | 12+ | | Yes |
| Bauer, Joan | Hope Was Here | 2000 | | | | |
| Bauer, Joan | Rules of the Road | 1998 | | | | |
| Bauer, Joan | Sticks | 1996 | | | | |
| Bauer, Marion | On My Honor | 1986 | Friendship | | | |
| Beatty, Patricia | Turn Homeward, Hannalee | 1984 | Historical | 10+ | Civil War | |
| Beatty, Patricia | Charley Skedaddle | 1987 | Historical | 10+ | Civil War | |
| Bellairs, John | The Trolley to Yesterday | 1989 | Mystery | 11+ | | |
| Blackwood, Gary | The Shakespeare Stealer series | 1998 | Friendship | | | |
| Bloor, Eric | Storytime | 2004 | | | | |
| Bloor, Eric | Tangerine | 1997 | | | | |
| Brooks, Bruce | The Moves Make the Man | 1988 | Sports | 14+ | | |
| Brooks, Phillip | Georgia O'Keefe: an Adventurous Spirit | 1995 | Biography | | | Yes |
| Brooks, Phillip | Mary Cassat: an American in Paris | 1995 | Biography | | | |
| Bunting, Eve | Flour Babies | 1994 | | | | |
| Cameron, Ann | The Secret Life of Amanda K. Woods | 1998 | | | | |
| Card, Orson Scott | Ender's Game | 2002 | Science Fiction | | | |
| Carlson, Lori M. | Cool Salsa | 1994 | Poetry | 12+ | Latino | |
| Christopher, John | The White Mountains | 1967 | Science Fiction | 12+ | | |
| Cohen, Joel H. | Norman Rockwell: America's Best-Loved Illustrator | 1997 | Biography | | | |
| Cooney, Caroline | The Face on the Milk Carton | 1990 | Suspense | 12+ | | |
| Creech, Sharon | Walk Two Moons** | 1994 | | | | |
| Creech, Sharon | Wanderer | 2000 | | | | |

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| Cushman, Karen | Catherine, Called Birdy | 1994 | Historical | | Middle Ages/Englan | |
| Cushman, Karen | Midwife's Apprentice** | 1995 | Historical | 13+ | Medieval | |
| Dana, Barbara | Young Joan | 1991 | Biography | 12+ | France | Yes |
| Danziger, Paula | Snail Mail No More | 2000 | Humorous | | | |
| Fast, Howard | April Morning | 1961 | Historical | | United | |
| Feinstein, John | Last Shot: Final Four Mystery | 2005 | Sports/Mystery | | | |
| Fleischman, Paul | Whirligig | 1998 | | | | |
| Forbes, Esther | Johnny Tremain** | 1945 | Historical Fiction | | American Revolution | |
| Fox, Paula | One-Eyed Cat | 1987 | Realistic | 13+ | | |
| Frank, Anne | The Diary of a Young Girl | 1958 | Autobiography | 13+ | World War II: Netherlands | |
| Freedman, Russell | Eleanor Roosevelt: a Life of Discovery | 1993 | Biography | | | |
| Freedman, Russell | Voice that Challenged the Nation** (Marian Anderson) | 2004 | Biography | | | |
| George, Jean C. | Julie of the Wolves** | 1973 | Adventure | 10+ | | |
| Giff, Patricia Kelly | Lily's Crossing | 1997 | Historical | | World War II | |
| Hahn, Mary Downing | Stepping on the Cracks | 1991 | Historical | | World War II | |
| Hamilton, Viginia | M.C. Higgins, The Great** | 1974 | Historical | 13+ | African- | |
| Hesse, Karen | Letters from Rifka | 1992 | | | | |
| Hesse, Karen | The Music of Dolphins | 1996 | | | | |
| Hesse, Karen | Out of the Dust | 1997 | | | | |
| Hinton, S. E. | The Outsiders | 1967 | Realistic | | | |
| Hobbs, Will | Jason's Gold <i>and others</i> | 1999 | | | | |
| Hoffman, Mary | City of Masks | 2002 | Fantasy | | | |
| Jacques, Brian | Redwall series | 1986 | Fantasy | 11+ | | |
| Jones, Diana Wynne | Merlin Conspiracy | 2003 | Fantasy | | | |
| Kelly, E. | Trumpeter of Krakow** | 1966 | Historical | | | |
| Konigsburg, E.L. | The View from Saturday | 1996 | Friendship | 10+ | | |
| Lester, Julius | To Be a Slave | 1968 | Non-Fiction | 10+ | Black | |
| Lowry, Lois | The Giver** | 1993 | Fantasy | 13+ | | |
| Lowry, Lois | Number the Stars** | 1989 | Historical | All | | |
| Magorian, Michelle | Good Night, Mr. Tom | 1981 | | | | |
| McGraw, Eloise | The Golden Goblet | 1986 | Historical | 11+ | Ancient | |

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| McKinley, Robin | Hero and the Crown | 1984 | Fantasy | 10+ | | |
| McKissack, Pat | The Dark Thirty | 1992 | Folk tales | | African- | |
| Meltzer, Milton | Voices From the Civil War | 1989 | Historical Non-Fiction | All | | |
| Morpugo, Michael | War of Jenkin's Ear | 1995 | Religious | 14+ | 1951 | |
| Murphy, Jim | The Great Fire** | 1995 | Historical Non-Fiction | | | |
| Nixon, Joan Lowery | Land of Hope (Ellis Island series) | 1992 | Historical | 10+ | Ellis | |
| O'Dell, Scott | Sing Down the Moon** | 1970 | Historical | 10+ | | |
| Orlev, Uri | The Man from the Other Side | 1991 | Historical | 14+ | Poland | |
| Parks, Linda Sue | Single Shard** | 2001 | | | | |
| Paterson, Katherine | Jacob Have I Loved** | 1980 | Family | 12+ | | |
| Peck, Robert Newton | A Day No Pigs Would Die | 1972 | Historical | 13+ | Rural | |
| Perkins, Lynne Rae | Criss Cross** | 2005 | Realistic | | | |
| Rinaldi, Ann | Amelia's War | 1999 | Historical | | Civil War | |
| Rinaldi, Ann | Girl In Blue | 2001 | Historical | | | |
| Rinaldi, Ann | Quilt Trilogy | 1994 | Historical | | | |
| Rinaldi, Ann | The Staircase | 2000 | Historical | 11+ | | Yes |
| Snyder, Zilpha | The Egypt Game <i>and others</i> | 1967 | | | | |
| Spinelli, Jerry | Crash | 1996 | Realistic | | | |
| Sutcliffe, Rosemary | Eagle of the Ninth <i>and others</i> | 1993 | | | | |
| Taylor, Mildred | Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** | 1976 | Historical | 12+ | African- | |
| Tolan, Stephanie | Surviving the Applewhites | 2002 | Realistic | | | |
| Tolkien, J. R. R. | The Hobbit | 1966 | Fantasy | 12+ | | |
| Tolkien, J. R. R. | The Lord of the Rings Trilogy | 1966 | Fantasy | 12+ | | |
| Voigt, Cynthia | Homecoming | 2002 | Realistic | 12+ | | |
| Voigt, Cynthia | Dacey's Song | 1981 | Realistic | 12+ | | |
| Yep, Lawrence | Dragonwings | 1975 | Historical | 13+ | Chinese- | |
| Yolen, Jane | Boots and the Seven Leaguers A Rock And Troll Novel | 2000 | Fantasy | | | |
| Yolen, Jane | The Devil's Arithmetic | 1998 | Historical | 11+ | Holocaust | |