

SEVENTH GRADE SUMMER READING (for students who just completed 6th grade)

Over the summer, **you must read the following book:**

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

Social/Historical

The Logans, a black family living in the South during the 1930s, are faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand. It takes the events of one turbulent year to show Cassie that having a place of their own is the Logan family's lifeblood.

This book is available in the Brevard County Library system, online at Amazon as a hard copy or as a Kindle. There will be a cross-curricular project assigned as soon as we return to school, so it is very important that the book be completed before school begins in August.

You must also select ANY TWO of the following books on this list (also available in the library, at Amazon, and in ebook formats) and read them during the summer. There will be AR testing done on these when we return so that we can determine some beginning reading strengths and interests. You should keep a running weekly book log (instructions and log attached) in order to track your progress.

Bridge to Terabithia
by Katherine Paterson, Donna Diamond

Social/Contemporary

An extraordinarily powerful tribute to friendship, this Newbery Award-winning novel recounts the unlikely friendship of a country boy, Jess, and his neighbor, an uprooted city girl named Leslie.

Catherine, Called Birdy
by Karen Cushman

Adventure/Historical

Catherine, the spirited and inquisitive daughter of an English country knight, narrates in diary form the story of her 14th year -- in the year 1290. Here, she records the events of her life, particularly her longing for adventures beyond the usual role of women.

The Phantom Tollbooth
by Norton Juster, Jules Feiffer (illus.)

Fantasy/Comedy

This ingenious fantasy centers around Milo, a bored ten-year old who comes home to find a large toy tollbooth sitting in his room. Joining forces with a watchdog named Tock, Milo drives through the tollbooth's gates and begins a memorable journey.

Words of Stone
by Kevin Henkes

Mystery/Contemporary

While exploring the countryside, 10-year-old Blaze Werla spots a devastating message on the side of a hill. Ultimately, Blaze's summer takes a turn toward mystery and adventure when he meets the boisterous and irresistible Joselle.

Absolutely Normal Chaos
by Sharon Creech

Contemporary/Comedy

A prequel to the Newbery Medal-winning *Walk Two Moons*, this book chronicles the daily life of 13-year-old Mary Lou Finney during her most chaotic and romantic summer ever. Mary Lou's summer journal -- which she begins grudgingly as a dreaded assignment for school -- becomes a hilarious chronicle of the circle of people and events that make her summer.

BOOK LOG INSTRUCTIONS:

You must read a little bit every day (I realize that on some days that little bit may be only five or ten minutes before bedtime...that's fine).

At the end of each week, **you must log in how many minutes you read each week** on the attached reading log. **Only do this once per week.**

You should **fill out how much you read, what the title of book is, the author's name, the style of book and the number of pages completed that week.**

Then, **have your parent sign off on each week** as witnesses to your reading.

You should be able to tell them something about the book as well as answer the following questions about the book: **(just tell them about it, there is no need to write this)**

What is the setting?

Who are the main characters?

Do you like the book? Why or why not?

By the end of the summer, you should have a reading log for each of the 10 weeks we have off.

This isn't meant to stress you out; it's meant to keep your skills sharp and to give you a chance to enjoy some nice stories. Reading is one of the most valuable things that a student can do to keep our brains active and engaged in the learning process; it's like doing push-ups for your mind!

Helpful Hints and Awesome Advice:

Take twenty minutes before bedtime as your reading time. Read in the car (if you can) while you're driving to fun summer activities. Don't read while surfing...that's dangerous. Read while waiting for friends to come to your house. Read while standing in line at Disney; don't read on Space Mountain...too dark. Read wherever you can... **just read.**

SUMMER READING LOG:

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Style: Pages Read:
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