



Dear Students,

Summer is the perfect time to become lost in a good book. One of the major benefits of reading is how it contributes to our personal growth. Reading allows you to learn from the experiences of others.

As you read, it is important to be aware of your thinking. To help guide your thinking while you read, you might ask yourself the following questions:

- Who are the main characters and how would you describe them? How do the characters relate to one another? What are their needs?
- What is the conflict or problem that the characters are facing? Remember that there are often minor difficulties that the characters are dealing with, but those issues are resolved quickly in the story. The main conflict can be followed throughout the book; the little problems usually encircle the big issue.
- Due to the problem the characters are facing, the main characters will frequently undergo some kind of change or will experience personal growth, in order to resolve the conflict. What lesson did the main character(s) learn as a result of overcoming the problem? Can you make a personal connection to this lesson or the “big idea”?

Assignment:

Over the course of the summer, please read lots of books! For language arts class, I’d like you to read at least three. Choose two from the enclosed list, and then one other that you think you would enjoy but that is not on the list. **When school starts, be prepared to complete a project about one of the books you have read and to explain the plot for all three of them.**

I also encourage you to do some creative writing or keep a journal of your summer experiences, though this is not required for language arts class.

If you are looking for resources or other ways to get ideas and keep track of reading, try these web sites:

- Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA): go to the Book Awards & Book/Media Lists Page
- Goodreads.com
- WhatshouldIreadnext.com

If you have any questions about summer reading, please send me an email at rfarquhar@ashmi.org. Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

Ms. Farquhar
Academy of the Sacred Heart
Middle School for Girls
Language Arts

Middle School for Girls Grades 7/8 Summer Reading List

- *Little Women*, Alcott
Thirteen Reasons Why, Asher
Hope Was Here, Bauer
**Rules of the Road*, Bauer
Jane Eyre, Bronte
Bitter Melon, Chow
And Then There Were None, Christie
**City of Bones*, Clare
Spirit and Dust, Clement-Moore
**The Hunger Games*, Collins
Skinny, Cooner
The Chocolate War, Cormier
Along for the Ride, Dessen
The Truth About Forever, Dessen
Oliver Twist, Dickens
A Tale of Two Cities, Dickens
These Shallow Graves, Donnelly
The Skin I'm In, Flake
**If I Stay*, Forman
The Graveyard Book, Gaiman
Lord of the Flies, Golding
Paper Towns, Green
The Fault in Our Stars, Green
Running Out of Time, Haddix
Rebel of the Sands, Hamilton
Olive's Ocean, Henkes
Witness, Hesse
The Outsiders, Hinton
**A Wrinkle in Time*, L'Engle
**The Lion, the Witch, & the Wardrobe*, Lewis
Under a Painted Sky, Lee
The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks, Lockhart
The Call of the Wild, London
Gathering Blue, Lowry
Number the Stars, Lowry
A Summer to Die, Lowry
Beauty, McKinley
Cinder, Meyer
**Anne of Green Gables*, Montgomery
The Wild Girls, Murphy
Sing Down the Moon, O'Dell
Shadowshaper, Older
Wonder, Palacio
**Hatchet*, Paulsen
I am Princess X, Priest
The Westing Game, Raski
Where the Red Fern Grows, Rawls
**Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, Riggs
**Jackaby*, Ritter
**Divergent*, Roth
The Hired Girl, Schlitz
**The Grimm Legacy*, Shuleman
Counting by 7s, Sloan
**Geek Girl*, Smale
This is What Happy Looks Like, Smith
**Stargirl*, Spinelli
Of Mice and Men, Steinbeck
**Murder is Bad Manners*, Stevens
Treasure Island, Stevenson
Dracula, Stoker
**The Hobbit*, Tolkien
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Twain
Click Here (to find out how I survived seventh grade), Vega
**Homecoming*, Voigt
**Code Name Verity*, Wein
**Uglies*, Westerfeld
The Book Thief, Zusak
The Names They Gave Us, Lord

**Please note: If you read a book on this list that is part of a series, your other choice should not be another book from the same series. Try some variety!*