



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.

You will be required to read *Okay For Now* by Gary Schmidt and 2 other books from the following list. However, please don't limit yourself! Read for enjoyment and growth this summer! Read and discuss books with your friends and family!

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

The following assignment is for the required novel for students in Grades 7 and 8. This assignment is required to be typed and submitted via email to your teachers by August 26. Be sure to write in complete sentences with proper punctuation and well-developed paragraphs.

Your entries will be assessed for insightfulness of content. Be prepared to have a literature discussion with your classmates during Orientation Cycle.

- Who are the main characters and how would you describe them? How do the characters relate to one another? What are their needs?
- Where does this story take place? What is this place like? When did this story take place? Have you ever been to a place like this? If not, would you like to visit a place like this? Why or why not?
- 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"? Explain.
- Draw a significant image/scene and explain in a short paragraph why you thought it was significant.
- Write a letter to one of the characters. (One page in friendly letter format.)

If you have any questions about your summer reading, please email one of us!

Mrs. Davidson ([kdavidson@ashmi.org](mailto:kdavidson@ashmi.org))

Ms. Hoettel ([jhoettel@ashmi.org](mailto:jhoettel@ashmi.org))

Mr. Kelly ([pkelly@ashmi.org](mailto:pkelly@ashmi.org))

Mr. Segal ([ti\\_swing@yahoo.com](mailto:ti_swing@yahoo.com))

## Summer Reading Book Jacket Grading Rubric

### Front Cover \_\_\_\_ / 15

- Design a cover for your book jacket that includes:
  - The title of the book (3)
  - The author's name (2)
  - A creative illustration. This should be eye-catching and reflect an important part of the book. Your illustration can be hand drawn, with colored pencils or markers, or designed on the computer. (This must be an original creation.)

### Book Spine \_\_\_\_ / 05

- The title of the book (2)
- The author's name (2)
- Publisher's logo (1)

### Back Cover \_\_\_\_ / 30

- In the top section of the panel, including a rating of this book with a detailed explanation in paragraph form (100 words). (10)
- In the middle section, write a description of a favorite scene with a detailed explanation in paragraph form (100 words). (10)
- In the bottom section, include your favorite quote from the book with a detailed explanation in paragraph form of who said it, to whom it was said, why it was said, and why you like the quote (100 words). (10)

### Front Cover Flap \_\_\_\_ / 15

- In the upper section of the flap, include a summary of the major events that occur in the book in paragraph form (150 words). (10)
- At the very bottom of the flap, include your name and date. (5)

### Back Cover Flap \_\_\_\_ / 20

- In the upper section of the flap, include a small picture of author with a short biography of author (50 words). (10)
- In the lower section of the flap, write a short explanation of the creative, original artwork used on the front cover flap. (75 words). (10)

### Spelling/Grammar \_\_\_\_ / 10

- Be sure to revise and edit your book jacket, checking for correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and well-written paragraphs. (10)

### Overall Creativity & Neatness \_\_\_\_ / 05

- Try to be as creative as possible with your book jacket. Use lots of colors and use your imagination! Book jacket should be neatly put together, without torn or ripped edges or pieces of paper falling off. Written portions should be easy to read. (5)

**TOTAL POINTS:** \_\_\_\_ / 100

# Book Jacket Project details

<p><b>Inside Back Cover Flap:</b></p> <p>Author picture</p> <p>Author biography (50 words)</p>	<p><b>Back Cover:</b></p> <p><b>Favorite character or characters</b> of this book with explanation in paragraph form. Excluding main character. (100 words)</p> <p><b>Favorite scene:</b> Describe a favorite scene with explanation in paragraph form (100 words)</p> <p><b>Favorite Quote:</b> From book with explanation in paragraph form of who said it, and why you like the quote. (100 words)</p>	<p><b>Front Cover:</b></p> <p><b>Title &amp; Author's Name</b></p> <p><b>Artwork:</b> Creative, original artwork illustrating the book. This may be a favorite scene in the story or a picture of the main character.</p> <p>Do not recreate the actual cover. Be Creative!</p>	<p><b>Inside Front Cover Flap:</b></p> <p><b>Summary</b> of events in book in paragraph form (150 words)</p> <p>Student's name, period, and date at bottom.</p>
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## Directions:

- Format information as shown above.
- Paper size:
  - \* If created by hand: 12" x 18" or 11" x 14"; any color paper you choose
  - \* If created on the computer: 8 1/2" x 11"; any color paper you choose
- Design a book jacket that will be folded like the example above.
- You may use the computer to help with your design, or you may create your jacket by hand, or a combination of both.
- Design your book jacket so it includes the above information.
- Be original! Be creative! Use color! Use your imagination! Have fun!
- Please write about the author and book using your own words. No plagiarism allowed.

## Kensington Hall Grades 7/8 Summer Reading List

*Watership Down*, Adams  
*Tuck Everlasting*, Babbit  
*The Thief of Always*, Barker  
*Peter and the StarCatchers* (Peter and the StarCatchers series),  
Barry and Pearson  
*On My Honor*, Bauer  
*Fahrenheit 451*, Bradbury  
*Unbound: A Novel in Verse*, Burg  
*Ender's Game*, Card  
*The Testing* series, Charbonneau  
*Artemis Fowl* series, Colfer  
*The Hunger Games* series, Collins  
*The Dark is Rising* series, Cooper  
*The Chocolate War*, Cormier  
*Red Badge of Courage*, Crane  
*The Journey of Little Charlie*, Curtis  
*The Maze Runner* series, Dashner  
*My Near Death Adventures (99% True)*, DeCamp  
*Robinson Crusoe*, Defoe  
*Heart of a Champion*, Deuker  
*The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, DiCamillo  
*Great Expectations*, Dickens  
*The Black Stallion*, Farley  
*The Ranger's Apprentice* series, Flanagan  
*Everybody's Revolution*, Fleming  
*Johnny Tremain*, Forbes  
*The Graveyard Book*, Gaiman  
*The Lord of the Flies*, Golding  
*Refugee*, Gratz  
*King Arthur And His Knights of The Round Table*, Green  
*Left Out*, Green  
*The Old Man and the Sea*, Hemingway  
*Dune (Dune Chronicles)*, Herbert  
*Siddhartha*, Hesse  
*That Was Then, This is Now*, Hinton  
*The Outsiders*, Hinton  
*Crossing the Wire*, Hobbs  
*Far North*, Hobbs  
*Across Five Aprils*, Hunt  
*The Phantom Tollbooth*, Juster  
*Astrotwins*, Kelly  
*Captains Courageous*, Kipling  
*A Separate Peace*, Knowles  
*To Kill a Mockingbird*, Lee  
*The Chronicles of Narnia* series, Lewis  
*The Call of the Wild*, London  
*The Sea Wolf*, London  
*To Build a Fire*, London  
*White Fang*, London  
*The Giver*, Lowry  
*Heat*, Lupica  
*Travel Team* (Danny Walker series), Lupica  
*The Night They Stole the Stanley Cup* (Screech Owls series),  
MacGregor

*Edge of Extinction* series, Martin  
*The Last Mission*, Mazer  
*Peter Pan in Scarlet*, McCaughrean  
*The Art of Manliness*, McKay and McKay  
*The Apothecary* (The Apothecary series), Meloy  
*Billy Budd*, Melville  
*Lost in the Barrens*, Mowat  
*Five Kingdoms* series, Mull  
*Monster*, Myers  
*Sunrise Over Fallujah*, Myers  
*Half Brother*, Oppel  
*Maximum Ride* series, Patterson  
*Word of Mouse*, Patterson and Grabenstein  
*Brian's Winter*, Paulsen  
*Harris and Me*, Paulsen  
*The River* (A Hatchet Adventure), Paulsen  
*The Chosen*, Potok  
*Discworld* series, Pratchett  
*Where the Red Fern Grows*, Rawls  
*Towers Falling*, Rhodes  
*Half Upon a Time*, Riley  
*Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series, Riordan  
*Harry Potter* series, Rowling  
*Holes*, Sachar  
*Blue Skin of the Sea*, Salisbury  
*Lord of the Deep*, Salisbury  
*Shane*, Schaefer  
*Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, Schmidt  
*Orbiting Jupiter*, Schmidt  
*The Wednesday Wars*, Schmidt  
*Endangered* (Ape Quartet), Schreier  
*Canoeing with the Cree*, Severeid  
*Baseball in April and Other Stories*, Soto  
*Of Mice and Men*, Steinbeck  
*The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Stevenson  
*Treasure Island*, Stevenson  
*Addison Cooke and the Treasure of the Incas*, Stokes  
*Dear Martin*, Stone  
*Gulliver's Travels*, Swift  
*The Friendship* (Logan Family Saga), Taylor  
*Lord of the Rings Trilogy*, Tolkien  
*The Hobbit*, Tolkien  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Twain  
*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Twain  
*20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, Verne  
*The Island of Dr. Moreau*, Wells  
*The Time Machine*, Wells  
*The War of the Worlds*, Wells  
*Stuart Little*, White  
*Leepike Ridge*, Wilson  
*Okay for Now*, Wilson  
*The Dragon's Tooth* (Ashtown Burials series), Wilson  
*The Book Thief*, Zusak

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!