



## Required Summer Reading for Students Entering Grades 6th-8th

The Middle School teachers offer reading choices that should prove enjoyable as well as helpful to their students' growth as readers. Over the summer rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> graders should read two books, one required and one chosen from the provided list. Students will be engaging with the chosen novels within the first week of school in the form of grade-level assessments.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Required:

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*, Riordan

Choice:

*Ella Enchanted*, Levine

*Hatchet*, Paulson

*Love That Dog*, Creech

*The Westing Game*, Raskin

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Required:

*A Wrinkle in Time*, L'engle

Choice:

*Number the Stars*, Lowry

*Tuck Everlasting*, Babbitt

*Schooled*, Kerman

*Charlotte's Web*, White

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Required:

*The Giver*, Lowry

Choice:

*The Devil's Arithmetic*, Yolen

*Treasure Island*, Stevenson

*Holes*, Sachar

*Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life*, Mass

### FAQs about Summer Reading

FAQ: How can I remember in August details from a novel I read in June?

Answer:

You should take detailed notes from the beginning to the end of each book. Good note taking is a skill that will be critical to your ability to learn and then to retain information throughout high school and later in college and graduate school.

- Be an active reader. If you own the book, read with a pen in hand and mark it up. If you are using a book that belongs to a library or a friend, you can use sticky notes to mark pages and passages. Write down your reactions, reflections, questions, and predictions.
- Get a notebook for your notes on summer reading. Be organized and purposeful because you want your notebook to prove a useful tool when it's time to review before the



tests.

- Make notes either as you read or at the end of each chapter. You should write pages and pages and pages of notes.

FAQ: What should I write in these pages and pages and pages of notes?

Answer:

- Before you start reading, write down answers to the following questions: Who wrote the book? Where did the author live? When was the book first published? Is the subject of the book connected to important events happening in that time and place?
- If reading a work of fiction, you should make note of the story's setting in time and place as soon as possible. If the setting changes, make note of that, too.
- Write detailed notes about each of the main characters. Questions you might consider: Age? Gender? Race? Class? Profession? Value system? Important or interesting physical traits? Relationship to the other main characters? Strengths and weaknesses of character? Successes and failures? Moral and mental growth or deterioration? Conflicts and the resolution of them?
- Make a list of the minor characters and their relationships to the main characters and story. Consider the questions above.
- Keep a running list of significant plot points (fiction) or events (non-fiction). Keep track of the passing of time in this list.
- Circle words that you don't know and look them up. Make sure you've found the definition that makes sense in context.
- If reading a work of nonfiction, you should also think about the occasion that prompted the author to write about this subject and his purpose in addressing an audience about it. What should his intended reader feel, think, and do about the subject? What kind of authority does the writer bring to this topic

**Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books  
2022-2023 List for Grades 6th-8th**

(For extra reading, not required)

***Amari and the Night Brothers*** by B.B. Alston

***Archimancy*** (*Shadow School, Book 1*) by J.A. White

***Concealed*** by Christina Diaz Gonzalez

***Curse of the Night Witch*** by Alex Aster

***Double the Danger and Zero Zucchini***  
by Betsy Uhrig

***Dragon Ops*** by Mari Mancusi

***The Elephant in the Room*** by Holly Goldberg Sloan

***Lola Benko, Treasure Hunter*** by Beth McMullen

***Pixie Pushes On*** by Tamara Bundy

***Quintessence*** by Jess Redman

***Rivals*** by Tommy Greenwald

***Scratch Scratch*** by Lindsay Currie

***The Smartest Kid in the Universe*** by Chris Grabenstein

***Starfish*** by Lisa Fipps

***Words on Fire*** by Jennifer Nielsen