



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 6th, 7th, 8th 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.

6th 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

7th Grade

Required:

A Wrinkle in Time, L'engle

Choice:

Number the Stars, Lowry

Tuck Everlasting, Babbitt

Schooled, Kerman

Charlotte's Web, White

8th 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