

Junior High

Summer Assignment Books and Projects

The purpose of this summer assignment is to cultivate knowledge and better prepare students for their upcoming English classes. Though none of these books are on the reading list for next year, each one of these stories has been selected due to their thematic connections to the courses and for their place in the pantheon of great books in the Western Tradition.

There are two parts to the summer assignment. Part 1 consists of picking **ONE** of the books for your upcoming grade and reading it during summer break. Once you are done reading the book, please refer to the 'Projects' section of this document to see which activities are open to you. Part 2 consists of picking and completing one project for your book. This summer assignment is not mandatory, but can earn you **extra credit** in your English class.

Summer Book Lists

Please select one book from your grade level list and choose a corresponding project.

7th Grade

Out of the Silent Planet, C.S. Lewis
Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson
Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell
Around the World in Eighty Days, Jules Verne
The Giver, Lois Lowry

8th Grade

Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank
The Chosen, Chaim Potok
The Lord of the Flies, William Golding
The Time Machine, H.G. Wells
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott

Projects

These projects are intended to reflect the student's time spent with the book as they ruminate on the themes and central ideas of the story. Therefore, a certain level of quality and effort is expected when completing a project.

Make a Book Cover or Movie Poster

- Students will design a new book cover or movie poster for their book. The medium of the cover/poster is up to the student (drawn poster, digital art, etc.) The cover/poster must feature a major theme of the book. Either on the back or attached to the cover/poster, the student must write a 100-word paragraph explaining their cover/poster design, analyzing and defending their choices.

Make a Comic Strip

- Students will make a comic strip about an important scene in the book. The comic itself should have no fewer than 12 cells, spread out however the student chooses. We encourage creativity, but the comic must also accurately portray the scene in the book.

Write a Letter from a Character to Another Character in the Book

- Students will choose two characters from the book and write a letter from one character to the other concerning one of the major plot elements in the story. The letter itself can be humorous or serious in nature, but it must be 300-350 words, and reflect an accurate understanding of the book.