



Harbor Country Day School  
*Embracing the extraordinary in every child.*

## UPPER SCHOOL SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

This summer we will be reading one **assigned** book and one book of **choice**.

### 1. The Assigned Text: This is required reading for incoming students

Grade 6 - Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Grade 7 - Among the Hidden, by Margaret Haddix

Grade 8 - Pictures of Hollis Woods, by Patricia Reilly Giff

The assigned book for each grade will be discussed in September and followed by the first “build-an-essay” project of the year. It will focus on central themes and literary elements used by the author. No preparation is necessary. Just enjoy the book!!!!

### 2. Free choice - Read any book, fiction or nonfiction, that is not part of a series.

**Your assignment** will require you to share your reading experience with the class in September. You will tell us the Title, Author, Genre and give a brief plot summary. Then you will tell us what you thought of the book. Finally, you will answer questions from classmates about the book. You will be permitted to have the book and a notecard for your presentation.

You might want to take a vacation from your usual reading habits and choose a genre with which you have had no experience. (Biography, Historical Fiction, Sci-Fi, Non-Fiction)

You might have an interest in a topic and choose a non-fiction book as a research tool.

You might want to check with friends and families for book recommendations.

**RECOMMENDED TITLES FOR SUMMER READING**  
**(Fiction and Nonfiction)**

**Strong Inside (Young Readers Edition): The True Story of How Perry Wallace Broke College Basketball's Color Line** by Andrew Maraniss

**Legends: The Best Players, Games, and Teams in Basketball** by Howard Bryant

**Life in Motion: Young Reader's Edition** by Misty Copeland and Brandy Colbert

**Fannie Never Flinched: One Woman's Courage in the Struggle for American Labor Union Rights** by Mary Cronk Farrell

**Portraits of Jewish-American Heroes** by Malka Drucker, Elizabeth Rosen

**I Got This: To Gold and Beyond** by Laurie Hernandez

**Beastly Brains: Exploring How Animals Think, Talk, and Feel** by Nancy Castaldo

**The Book that Made Me: A Collection of 32 Personal Stories** edited by Judith Ridge

**Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice (Reprint)** By Phillip Hoose

**A Year Without Mom** by Dasha Tolstikova

**All Heart: My Dedication and Determination to Become One of Soccer's Best** by Carli Lloyd

**Walk Two Moons** by Sharon Creech

**The Wednesday Wars** by Gary D. Schmit

**Tuck Everlasting** by Natalie Babbitt

**Where the Red Fern Grows** by Wilson Rawls

**Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson **Dear Mr. Henshaw** by Beverly Cleary

**Hatchet** by Gary Paulson

**Anne of Green Gables** L.M. Montgomery

**The Crossover** by Kwame Alexander

**Hoot** by Carl Hiaasen

**Any novel** by Jerry Spinelli (Wringer, Loser, Maniac Magee, Crash)

**Any other title** that is not part of a series.