

7th Grade Super Summer Passport

Dear Upcoming 7th Graders & Parents:

For those of us who work on an academic calendar, summer is a special blessing. It gives us time to spend time with friends and family, catch up on films we may have missed, travel, and test our hammocks. We teachers embrace the opportunity to read, and, of course, we invite our students to join us in exploring books during the summer months.

In order to promote reading, we have chosen one required book for upcoming seventh graders in regular English Language Arts: *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park.

There will be two required books for Accelerated English Language Arts: *Refugee* by Alan Gratz + one book from the book list below.

In addition, ALL students will complete 2 Summer Passport activities: one required and one from the list of choices on the back of this letter.

We ask that students read the assigned book selection carefully and come to school in August ready to participate in class discussions about the required reading. We also look forward to reading your letters and other passport activities, which will give teachers an opportunity to get to know you better. We encourage you to read and complete the passport activities throughout the summer; don't wait until the week prior to school. These assignments are designed to ease your transition from 6th grade to 7th grade and to exercise your writing skills. They will also be your first grades for 7th grade ELA!

Parents, please encourage your children to make reading a part of their daily lives this summer. We appreciate the efforts you make to foster a love of books.

Sincerely,
7th Grade English Language Arts Teachers

Accelerated students will be required to read *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
AND one of the following choices:

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
Unbroken (Young Reader's Edition) by Laura Hillenbrand
The Hobbit by JRR Tolkien
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
Call of the Wild by Jack London
Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery
The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed
I Am Malala (Young Reader's Edition) by Malala Yousafzai
The Warden's Daughter by Jerry Spinelli
Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes
Ground Zero by Alan Gratz
American Royals by Katherine McGee

***We recognize that some of these titles have been adapted into films. It is very important to note that our discussions of the books will involve literary elements, author's craft, etc. Watching the movie alone is not going to "get the job done." Choose a book you will enjoy reading!!**

Summer Passport Activities

*The following activities may be typed or hand-written and are due **on or before** Friday, August 9, 2024.*

1. Required by **ALL** students:

Write a letter (minimum of one page) to your seventh grade English Language Arts teacher introducing yourself. Tell about your likes and dislikes. Explain any successes and challenges you have faced in reading, writing, and grammar. What are your expectations for seventh grade? Include any other information that you might want to share to help your teacher get to know you.

2. Choose **ONE** of the following activities to complete:

- **Letter:** Write a one-page letter to the author of your summer reading book expressing your thoughts toward the book. Include what you liked & disliked about the book, questions you would want to ask them, and what lessons you learned from the book.
- **Picture:** Draw a detailed picture of a person you met, a place you visited during the summer, or a character from one of your summer reading books. Write a descriptive paragraph to accompany your drawing explaining what you drew.
- **Movie Review:** Make a poster of the theme, main characters, plot (include exposition, rising action, climax, falling action & resolution) & conflicts in the movie. Include a one-paragraph review of what you liked/disliked about the movie.
- **Cook:** Make a homemade dish for your family. Write a one-page description of the preparation and the enjoyment of the cuisine. Include the recipe. Pictures of your family enjoying the recipe or you making the recipe are encouraged but not required!
- **Interview:** Interview an adult such as a grandparent or neighbor. Ask him/her what life was like when he/she was in middle school as well as world events at that time. Provide a written record of the interview questions and answers. Be sure to include who you interviewed!
- **Map:** Create a detailed & colorful map of a place you visited over the summer. Be sure to label it! (landforms, landmarks, towns, cities, states, etc.)
- **Music:** Choose a meaningful song that relates to you & your life or that you just enjoy. Write out the lyrics and explain why they have special meaning for you.