



EIGHTH GRADE

The Lipscomb Academy Middle School Summer Reading Philosophy:

We believe that children need free time in the summer to relax and enjoy the pleasures of childhood. However, the research is clear: without practice, students may lose reading skills over the summer months, especially reluctant readers.

We hope that you and your family will be able to enjoy many activities this summer, so we are requiring you to read just **one** book. Of course, we would be thrilled if you read more books this summer. Once you read the book, complete the attached assignment with student and parent signatures, which needs to be turned in by August 21st, 2026. You will need to handwrite the assignment– please do not type your responses.

Your summer reading book can be from the list below– these are my suggestions that navigate themes we will discuss during the 8th-grade ELA year. You can also select a book of your choice--one you have *not* read before. If you choose an outside book, please have your parent check the content before reading so that the book is appropriate for you.

1. *Discovering Wes Moore* by Wes Moore
2. *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
3. *Everything Sad is Untrue: (A True Story)* by Daniel Nayeri
4. *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie
5. *Opposite of Always* by Justin Reynolds
6. *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli
7. *Strong Inside (Young Readers Edition)* by Andrew Maraniss
8. *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld
9. *Wolf Hollow* by Lauren Wolk

Please **do not** read these books as we plan to read them during the school year: *The Giver*, *Hinds' Feet on High Places*, *Ghost*, and *Man's Search for Meaning*.



After you finish reading, please write a **4-5 sentence paragraph** answering each of the following questions for your book, and use your best spelling and grammar. Include quotes to support your answers. Feel free to attach a separate sheet of paper or type your responses. A student and guardian must sign the assignment!
Note: Do **NOT** use AI (ChatGPT, etc.) when completing this assignment. I want to learn from YOUR voice and insights– not someone else’s thoughts. **Due 8/21!!**

Book Title and % Read: _____

Student Name and Signature: _____

Guardian Signature: _____

What was the most memorable moment from the book? Why did it stand out?

What are 2-3 key lessons you learned from the book?



How did this book connect to your own life or experiences? In what ways did the book challenge your thinking or perspective?

Did you enjoy this book? Why or why not?

What are you excited or nervous for this year? Is there anything you'd like me to know about you as we start our 8th-grade ELA journey?
