Tallulah Falls School Sixth Grade
Summer Reading Book List & Activities 2026

Summer Reading Activities

- Choose one book from the list below and complete TWO activities.
- Both activities must be completed thoughtfully and neatly.
- Projects should demonstrate genuine reading and reflection.
- Creativity is encouraged, but depth of thought matters most.
- You should be prepared to speak about your work during the first week of school.

These activities are designed not simply to show that you finished a book, but to help you begin the year ready to think, discuss, and grow through literature.

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Character Artifact Collection

Choose five important objects connected to your protagonist's journey.

For each object:

- bring or create a representation of it,
- explain its importance to the story,
- and describe what it reveals about the character.

You should also explain:

- how the object connects to an important moment in the novel,
- and how it helped shape the character's choices or growth.

This activity requires close reading, interpretation, and oral explanation.

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Scene Recreation & Reflection

Create a visual recreation of one important scene from the book.

Options may include:

- drawing,
- painting,
- diorama,
- digital illustration,
- storyboard,
- or hand-crafted model.

Alongside the visual, prepare a short spoken explanation discussing:

- why this moment matters,
- what important choice or realization occurs,
- and how the scene changes the story or characters.

Your recreation should include meaningful details from the text, not just a general image.

Letter to or from a Character

Write a thoughtful handwritten letter:

- either TO a character,
- OR FROM a character after the events of the novel.

Your letter should explore:

- an important struggle,
- a difficult decision,
- a regret,
- a lesson learned,
- or advice the character might give to others.

The letter should sound authentic to the world and experiences of the novel. Students will share portions of their letters aloud during class discussion.

Quotation Reflection Journal

Choose three important quotations from the novel.

For each quotation:

- copy it carefully,
- explain the context,
- analyze what it reveals about the story or characters,
- and explain why you believe it is important.

Then conclude with a personal reflection: What lesson from this novel do you think people your age could learn today?

This activity emphasizes thoughtful interpretation rather than summary.

Moral Crossroads Discussion Presentation

Identify one major decision made by a character in the novel.

Create a short presentation explaining:

- the situation,
- the possible choices,
- the consequences,
- and whether the character made a wise or unwise decision.

You must also answer:

- What would you have done?
- What personal qualities or weaknesses influenced the decision?
- How did this moment affect the character's future?

You should be prepared to lead a brief class discussion afterward.

Choose ONE of the following books to read:

- ***Away* by Megan Freeman**
    - Dystopia; mystery; poetry; male and female protagonists
- ***Once for Yes* by Allie Millington**
    - Realistic fiction; some magic; female protagonist
- ***Rebellion 1776* by Laurie Halse Anderson**
    - Historical fiction; female protagonist
- ***School for Thieves* by Peter Burns**
    - Adventure; male protagonist
- ***Secrets of the Broken House* by Taryn Souders**
    - Mystery; male protagonist
- ***The Lions' Run* by Sara Pennypacker**
    - Historical fiction; male protagonist
- ***The Tenth Mistake of Hank Hooperman* by Gennifer Choldenko**
    - Realistic fiction; male protagonist
- ***Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan**
    - Historical fiction; realistic fiction; female protagonist
- ***The Door in the Wall* by Marguerite de Angeli**
    - Historical fiction; medieval coming-of-age
- ***The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien**
    - Fantasy; adventure; male protagonist
- ***The Horse and His Boy* by C. S. Lewis**
    - Fantasy; adventure; allegory; male and female protagonists
- ***The Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell**
    - Historical fiction; survival adventure; female protagonist

Books can be checked out from your public library, found at a local bookshop, or ordered online.