

2026-2027 Summer Reading Assignment

Mother Seton School

Incoming Eighth Grade

Overview

The purpose of summer reading requirements is to support the continued development of vocabulary and reading strategies throughout the summer. (And - most importantly - to enjoy a couple good books!)

Guidelines

- Summer reading is a required assignment.
- Students must read 2 books from their grade-level lists.
- Students should complete a writing activity for one book and a creative activity for the second book.
- The signed form documenting completion of summer reading can be turned into the Literature teacher on the first day back to school.
- If you have questions - my email is heather.nees@mothersetonschool.org

Please return this form to your Literature teacher on your first day back to school - stapled to your summer reading!

Name _____ Grade/Section _____

Please list the books you read to complete your summer reading assignment:

1. Book 1: _____

2. Book 2: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Seventh Grade Entering Eighth Grade

Dear Incoming Eighth Grader,

Welcome to eighth grade! To prepare for next year, you will read TWO (2) books over the summer. You should choose *two* from the list provided below.

You are going to write *one* 1 ½ - 2 page report (double spaced) comparing your TWO books. The first paragraph should introduce the settings, characters, and main conflicts. Then, you will focus on comparing either the characters or themes in the book.

- **Character:**

Compare two important characters - one from each of your books - by answering the following questions: What is each character's most important character trait? What is their most important action in their story? What are some similarities AND differences between these characters? (These can be personalities, likes/dislikes, leadership abilities, etc.) How do each of these characters impact their story in a meaningful way? Which character do you relate to more, and why?

- **Theme:**

Compare two themes - one from each of your books - by answering the following questions: What lesson did the novel teach through the conflicts, or through the changes in the characters during the story? How are these lessons similar or different to each other? Which theme do you think is the most important, and why? Use specific examples from each book to support your answers.

For your report, be sure to write in complete sentences. The top of the page should have your name, the book title, and the author. Remember, grammar counts! Double check your spelling, grammar, and punctuation. You can handwrite your report neatly, or type it and print it out (Times New Roman, size 12). These reports will be graded when you return to school in the fall!

The directions for your creative activity are on the next page.

Have a great summer and happy reading!

Book List

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Terror at Bottle Creek by Watt Key

Peak by Roland Smith

Creative Activity:

Create a movie poster describing ONE of the two books that you have read. Be creative, follow directions, and do your best work! You can use different art supplies (markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc). This rubric should be turned in with the poster!

Project Requirements - Worth 20 Points	Possible Points	Earned Points
MUST be created on at least a 12x18 inch poster/construction paper/etc.	1	
The author's name should clearly appear on the front as the Director .	1	
Your name should clearly appear on the front as the Producer .	1	
A meaningful illustration should be the focus of your poster. Your poster should contain pictures or original art made by you that represents the theme or message of your novel (do not copy the book cover).	3	
On the front of your poster, write or type a 1-2 sentence description of 3 characters from the book. Then, cast them by choosing 3 celebrities to play the roles in your movie. Include pictures or illustrations of your celebrities with descriptions. <u>Example:</u> Katniss is a strong, teen-aged girl who leads her community in the face of danger. Despite the pressures to conform, she shows bravery and wisdom and returns home a heroine.	3	
You must have a one paragraph review on the back of your poster. If you want to type it, please tape or glue it to the poster - do not staple it! This paragraph should be 6-7 sentences at least! 1. Write 2-3 sentences describing what the book is about. 2. Discuss what you particularly liked or disliked about the book. This should also be 2-3 sentences. 3. Wrap it up by identifying the book's ideal reader.	5	
Proper spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and complete sentences!	3	
Turning in your poster to your Literature teacher on time!	3	