



Middle School Required SUMMER READING

Instructions: This summer, you will choose one novel to read from a list of choices for your 2026-27 grade level.
Questions? Please contact Mrs. Danielle Record at danielle.record@charchrist.com.

GRADE 5 - HOW DO RELATIONSHIPS TRANSFORM US?

Fish In A Tree

by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

GRADE 6 - WHAT CAN YOU LEARN FROM A JOURNEY?

Choose one of the following:

Refugee

by Allen Gratz

[ISBN: 978-0545880831]

(Choose one of the character stories to follow or read all.)

When Stars Are Scattered

by Victoria Jamieson and

Omar Mohamed

[ISBN: 978-0525553908]

GRADE 7 - HOW DOES A PERSON'S MINDSET IMPACT HIS/HER EXPERIENCE?

Choose one of the following:

Brian's Winter

by Gary Paulsen

[ISBN: 978-0440227199]

A Wrinkle in Time

by Madeleine L'Engle

[ISBN: 978-0312367541]

All Thirteen

by Christina Soontornvat

[ISBN: 978-1536209457]

GRADE 8 - HOW DO WE OVERCOME ADVERSITY?

Choose one of the following:

Revolution

by Deborah Wiles

[ISBN: 978-0545106085]

Hidden Figures

(Young Readers Edition)

by Margot Lee Shetterly

[ISBN: 978-0062662378]

Unbroken

***(The Young Adult Adaptation): An
Olympian's Journey from Airman to
Castaway to Captive***

by Laura Hillenbrand

[ISBN: 978-0385742528]

Library books are great, but please purchase the book so you can write in it as you read and then have it with you in your language arts classes.

GRADES 5-8:

Here are a few important things to know before you begin:

- When selecting a book in grades 6-8, take some time to preview the books before making your selection; read the first few pages to be sure you are interested in the storyline and that the book is on your reading level.
- During the first few weeks of school, your teachers will ask you to complete a writing assignment that answers the essential question using your selected book as well as various reading assignments to practice specific reading skills such as inferencing, identifying themes, characterization and making connections.
- As you are reading, please annotate or take notes throughout the entirety of the book. It is most beneficial for you to take notes directly in your book.

Below are some ideas on annotating/taking notes:

- **WHAT THOUGHTS** do you have as you read?
 - Grade 5 focus on thoughts about how characters embrace their uniqueness and celebrate success.
 - Grade 6 focus on the challenges characters face and how they grow as a result of those challenges.
 - Grade 7 focus on how the characters' attitudes impact their experiences.
 - Grade 8 focus on thoughts about how the characters work for or see a need for change.
- **WHAT QUESTIONS** do you have as you read?
- **WHAT CONNECTIONS** can you make to life, interests, experiences, faith, something else you read, heard, or know, etc.?
- **FOR EXAMPLE**, in places where the character is facing a challenge, you might write "hard situation" or "struggling with ____" in the margins. Write your questions next to the sections you want to talk more about or need clarification for. And definitely, make notes in your book of the connections you see: "this is like the movie ____" or "this reminds me of the story we read last year ____."