

Summer Reading Homework – ALL GRADES

(Due on Thursday, August 27th/Friday, August 28th) *They were given a novel at school. Incoming 6th graders received from their 5th grade teachers. Incoming 7th and 8th graders received books (City Spies by James Ponti) from Ms. Smith and Ms. Moore.*

As you read your novel, you will complete three important tasks. Collect all three tasks on paper, and it must be handwritten (it should not be typed):

1. Chapter Summary (One Sentence Only!)

Write ****one sentence**** that summarizes the most important events of the chapter.

- Keep it short, clear, and focused on what really matters.

2. Find the Theme

As you read, think about the “theme”, or the “big message” of the story.

- A theme is NOT one word (like *friendship* or *courage*)
- A theme IS a full sentence that explains what the author is saying about that topic

Example:

- Topic: Friendship
- Theme: True friendship requires honesty and trust.

Tip: The theme may not be stated directly—you may need to “infer” (read between the lines)!

3. Collect Evidence

Find evidence from the text that supports your idea about the theme. Should be at least one piece of evidence from the beginning of the novel, one piece of evidence from the middle, and then one piece of evidence from the end. At a minimum, you should have three piece of evidence.

This can include:

- Important quotes
- Key events
- Character actions or decisions

Make sure your evidence clearly connects to your theme!

Keep in Mind:

- The theme can appear in every chapter, even if it’s not obvious right away
- Your thinking about the theme may grow or change as you keep reading—that’s okay!
- Always support your ideas with proof from the text