

8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2018

Dear Rising Eighth Graders,

We are so excited to begin your eighth grade journey with you this fall. In order to properly prepare for eighth grade, you need to keep up your independent reading this summer. Students who read regularly not only grow as readers but also improve their knowledge of the world, vocabulary, and writing skills.

For this summer, your goal is to read three books (*each* from a *different* genre listed below).

For each of the books that you read, you are responsible for writing one reader's response. That means on the first day of school, you should have three different reader's responses. These could be handwritten or typed but must be handed to your teacher on the first day (not shared through google drive).

The goal of your summer reading and these responses is to keep up reading throughout the summer and show your teachers that you are engaged in critical thinking about what you read.

Happy Reading,

Ms. Colen and Ms. Hilarides

Below are the different genres. You may choose any THREE different genres. You can read any three books, as long as they are from different genres.

General Fiction Fiction that transcends popular novel categories—mystery, romance or science fiction, [etc.]—is called mainstream fiction.	Historical Fiction A fictional story set in a recognizable period of history. As well as telling the stories of ordinary people's lives, historical fiction may involve political or social events of the time.	Mystery A form of narration in which one or more elements remain unknown or unexplained until the end of the story.
Fantasy Fantasy is a genre of fiction that commonly uses magic and other supernatural phenomena as a primary plot element, theme, or setting.	Science Fiction Science fiction can be defined as literature involving elements of science and technology as a basis for conflict, or as the setting for a story.	Adventure A genre of fiction in which action is the key element, overshadowing characters, theme and setting. ... The conflict in an adventure story is often man against nature.
Biography (non-fiction) an account of someone's life written by someone else	Non-fiction A work in which real events and people are written [about] in novel form, but are not camouflaged as a fictional story.	Memoir (non-fiction) a historical account or biography written from personal knowledge or special sources

Options for Reader Response. You may NOT repeat questions. Each response should be about a page. They may be typed or handwritten.

Fiction:

1. Create an “Instagram profile” for one of the characters in the novel. Your profile should contain a bio, and at least 6 images with captions. Your images should represent traits of the character and things they might do.
2. Write a series of Twitter or Snapchat posts (at least 10) from the perspective of one of the main characters in your novel. The posts should mirror the events of the story.
3. Write two diary entries from the perspective of the protagonist and antagonist in the story, centering around one event in the story. Each diary entry should be 8-10 sentences and show the distinct point of view of that character. (One entry for the protagonist, one for the antagonist)
4. Write a letter to the author responding to the text. What did you like about it? Do you think it’s a good book for a middle school student to read? Would you recommend it to your friends? What questions do you have for the author?

Non-Fiction:

1. (Biography) Create a resume for the subject of the biography. Your resume should include the following sections: Education, work experience, interests and hobbies. You can find sample resumes online.
2. What have you learned from reading this text? How has this text broadened your perspective? What are you more interested in after reading this text?
3. How can you relate this text to current events going on today? Make at least three text-to-world connections and explain them in detail.
4. Write a letter to the author responding to the text. What did you like about it? Do you think it’s a good book for a middle school student to read? Would you recommend it to your friends? What questions do you have for the author?

You may email Ms. Hilarides and Ms. Colen if you have any questions!

Thanks,

Ms. Hilarides (lhilarides@gatewaymiddle.org)

Ms. Colen (ecolen@gatewaymiddle.org)