

“Reading is a discount ticket to everywhere.”

Mary Schmich

Arborbrook Junior High
Summer Reading
2017



Summer Reading!! One of the greatest pleasures in the world!

Please choose one of the books below to read and then complete one of the assignments listed to turn in by Tuesday, August 15, the first day of school. *This will be your first grade of the year in either your English class (7th grade) or History class (8th grade).*

The Books

***Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt**

A Newberry Honor book, *Across Five Aprils* tells the story of nine year old Jethro and his older sister who must take over running the family farm when his father becomes sick and his male relatives leave to fight in the Civil War.

***The Perilous Road* by William O. Steele**

In this Newberry Honor book, Chris hates the Yankees who have ruined his life by stealing his family's food and winter supplies during the Civil War. So, imagine how Chris feels when he learns his older brother has joined the Union Army and become a Yankee? Will he ever be able to forgive his brother? What will happen when Chris actually has to come face to face with the Yankees he so desperately hates. Are they the people he imagined?

***Lincoln's Last Days* by Bill O'Reilly**

“This thrillerlike adaptation captures the excitement of the Union victory in the Civil War and the shock and horror that quickly followed as the country learned of Lincoln's death and sought revenge on his assassins.” The book is told hour by hour on the fateful day of Lincoln's death and contains pictures of locations and artifacts from the actual assassination. –from *School Library Journal*

***A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story* by Linda Sue Park**

This book contains two stories that intersect in an exciting and memorable way as the author tells the recent history of Sudan. Nya is a young girl who must walk two hours each way to fetch water for her family. Salva is a young boy who becomes one of the “lost boys” of Sudan. How they come to know and help each other is an amazing true story that will inspire you.

***Alcatraz vs. the Evil Librarians* by Brandon Sanderson**

OK. This book is totally different from the others listed above, but if you like fantasy fiction, you’re going to love this one.

“On his thirteenth birthday, foster child Alcatraz Smedry gets a bag of sand in the mail- his only inheritance from his father and mother. He soon learns that this is no ordinary bag of sand. It is quickly stolen by the evil Librarians who are taking over the world by spreading misinformation and suppressing truth. Alcatraz must stop them, using the only weapon he has: an incredible talent for breaking things.” *Amazon*

The Assignments

Pick ONE!

- a. Summarize the book in poem form with rhyme (minimum 15 lines).
- b. Q & A - Pretend you're interviewing a person from the book. Write your interview in question and answer format with at least 15 questions (and 15 answers).
- c. Write a 2-page letter to one of the characters in the book.
- d. As a literary agent, write a letter to the publishing company designed to persuade them to publish this book.
- e. You're the reporter. Write a front-page news story and type it up just like the front page of a real newspaper OR record a video “live” from an important scene from the book. In both cases, you’ll want to interview eyewitnesses and tell exactly what is happening. If you record a video, please type up a transcript of your interview to turn in along with the video.
- f. Journal as you go - As you're reading the book, keep a two-sided reading journal. The left side should have quotes from the book and page numbers. The right side should have your questions, thoughts, observations, revelations, etc.
- g. Write a short play dramatizing one of the scenes in the book. Include character names and then give them lines (dialogue).

The Rubric

Narration	/50
<i>Writing is accurate, detailed, and shows evidence that the student read the book.</i>	
Assignment Directions	/10
<i>Student followed assignment directions and typed the assignment.</i>	
Grammar and Mechanics	/10
<i>Student proofread work carefully and used correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar.</i>	
Best Effort	/30
<i>Student used creativity and completed the assignment with excellence.</i>	

Due Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2017