

Dear 5th - 8th Students & Parents,

Research shows that reading over the summer helps students maintain and even improve their literacy skills. It also prepares them for a strong start to the following school year. This summer reading encourages students to choose a book that interests them, while also offering structured options to support grade-level growth.

For summer reading for incoming 5th-8th grade students are to choose **ONE BOOK FROM THE BOOK CHOICE LIST ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES**. After reading the book, students need to choose a way to share what their book was about.

Ideas for this creative project include but are not limited to: Canva, 3D poster, video, written paper, 3-D project about the book, etc.

To receive full credit for this assignment, your project MUST include:

- Genre
- Short summary of what the book was about
- Details about main characters
- Favorite part
- Least favorite part
- An interesting quote from the book
- 1-10 Rating of the book (1 the worst to 10 the highest)

This project is due Friday, August 21. Your child will share this project with their classmates. On the next page is a rubric for how your project will be graded.

I hope summer reading will be a fun and enriching experience for your child. Thank you for your continued support in building strong readers and lifelong learners. I look forward to seeing the projects the students come up with. Have a restful and book-filled summer!

Blessings,

Mrs. Bocek

abocek@hiscross.net

Summer Reading Book Project Rubric

Points	Genre & Summary	Character Details	Personal Reflection	Quote & Rating	Overall Presentation
5	Clearly identifies genre with specific details. Comprehensive summary that captures main plot points and themes.	Detailed description of 2-3 main characters including personality, motivations, and character development.	Thoughtful explanation of favorite and least favorite parts with specific examples from the text.	Meaningful quote that represents book's core message. Clear 1-10 rating with specific reasoning.	Neat, organized, error-free presentation. Follows all instructions precisely.
3	Basic genre identified. Summary covers main events but lacks depth.	Basic character descriptions with limited details.	General statements about favorite/least favorite parts with minimal explanation.	Quote included. Rating given without clear explanation.	Mostly neat presentation with minor errors or missing elements.
1	Genre missing or incorrect. Summary is vague or incomplete.	Minimal character information. Lacks understanding.	Unclear or missing personal reflections.	Missing quote or rating. No explanation provided.	Messy presentation. Multiple missing instructions.

Due Date: Friday, August 21 (turned in on time 10 points)

Presentation: Be prepared to share with classmates! (Presented to classmates 10 points)

_____ / 45

Future 5th & 6th Grade Book List:

The Cat Who Went To Heaven- Elizabeth Coatsworth
Space Case – Stuart Gibbs
A Mouse Called Wolf – Dick King-Smith
Insignificant events in the Life of a Cactus – Dusti Bowling
Lunch Money - Andrew Clements
Hoot-Hiaasen
Wishtree – Katherine Applegate
Bob – Mass & Stead
A Boy Called Bat-Arnold
Hole in the Wall – Tevin Hansen
Hero – Jennifer Shotz
Sounder-William H. Armstrong
Gregor the Overlander - Suzanne Collins
The Castle in the Attic - Elizabeth Winthrop
Bridge to Terabithia -Katherine Paterson
The Chocolate Touch - Patrick Skene Catling
The Water Horse - Dick King-Smith
Hank Zipzer Series - Henry Winkler
Raymie Nightingale - Kate DiCamillo
Some Kind of Happiness - Dan Gemeinhart
When Friendship Followed Me Home - Paul Griffin
Hatchet - Gary Paulsen
42 is Not Just a Number: The Odyssey of Jackie Robinson
American Hero – Doreen Rappaport
Call It Courage - Sperry
The Friendship War - Andrew Clements
The Face on the Milk Carton – Cooney
Out of My Mind –Draper
Ragweed (Dimwood Forest Series #1)- Avi
Walk Two Moons - Creech
Tuck Everlasting – Babbitt
Chasing Redbird - Creech
Wonder (Wonder #1)- R.J. Palacio
Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story - Nora Raleigh Baskin
Anne of Green Gables (Anne of Green Gables #1) - L.M. Montgomery
The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians #1) - Rick Riordan
Al Capone Does My Shirts (Al Capone at Alcatraz #1)- Gennifer Choldenko
Smile (Smile #1) - Raina Telgemeier
Rush Revere and the Brave Pilgrims- Limbaugh

Future 7th & 8th Grade Book List:

Driver's Ed – Cooney
Allies - Allen Gratz
Ban This Book – Alan Gratz
No Slam Dunk – Mike Lupica
Restart – Gordon Korman
Esperanza Rising – Pam Muñoz Ryan
The Cay – Taylor
Refugee – Alan Gratz
The Pearl – Steinbeck
American Hero –Doreen Rappaport
The Lottery Rose – Hunt
Princess Bride - Goldman
A Year Down Yonder (A Long Way from Chicago #2)- Peck
Tolkien Trilogy – Tolkien
The Car – Paulsen
Pax by Sara Pennypacker
Treasure Island – Stevenson
Gathering Blue – Lowery (2nd in series)
Raisin in the Sun – Honsberry
The Witch of Blackbird Pond – Speare
Anne Frank, Diary of a Young Girl – Frank
Jacob Have I Loved – Paterson
Whatever Happened to Janie – Cooney
The Red Pyramid (Kane Chronicles #1)- Rick Riordan
Behind Rebel Lines - Seymour Reit
Rush Revere and the American Revolution- Limbaugh
Wolf Hollow - Lauren Wolk