

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part One – READ!** Please list below the titles authors of book you read this summer. **You must read at least 4 books from my list**, and I strongly encourage you to read more, either from this list, or from you own libraries (6-8 is a good goal). Please list each book that you read. Use another piece of paper, if you need more space.

	Book Title	Author
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____

**Part Two – Complete a project!** Now that you have read at least 4 books from my list, please choose a project to complete. Choose your favorite of the 4 books you read as the subject of your project. If you read more books, or books that were not on the list, I salute you! However, the book you use for your project must be one from my list. **You need only complete ONE project for ONE book.**

**Project 1 – Commercial**

Do you love your book and cannot wait to tell others about it? Then sell it! You will create a 3 minute commercial advertizing your book to your classmates that features you, the book, and at least one prop related to the story. You may choose to dress up like a character in the book, or you may choose to wear formal clothing as if you are a businessman – be imaginative in your presentation. Make sure the backdrop suggests the setting of the book. For example, if your book takes place in Paris, you may want to draw a picture of the Eiffel Tower on a poster board to have behind you as you speak. Your video should be of excellent quality and production. Make sure that it will play back from a CD or a flash drive. Once more, the requirements are:

- 3 minute video advertizing your book – Answer the question, “Why should anyone buy and read this book?”
- Say the title of the book and the author in the first 5 seconds.
- Use a prop that is somehow related to the story.
- Use a backdrop that hints at the setting of the story. (Not just your bedroom wall)
- Say your own name and your opinion of this book.
- Summarize the main conflict of the book and hint at the solution.
- Make sure the sound, picture quality, and overall look of the video are excellent.
- Save the file in a format that you can bring to school and make sure that your name is on the project.

## **Project 2 – Alternate Ending**

Are you unhappy with the way your book ended? Did you predict something different as you read? For this project, you will write your own ending. You may not change the main conflict of the story, but you may change the outcome. You will write at least 2 pages, 5-6 paragraphs, giving your version of what might have happened if you had written the book. The requirements are:

- Typed, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font on a document that has 1 inch margins.
- Your name, the book title, and the author should all appear in the upper left corner.
- Begin with one paragraph briefly summarizing the story up to the point where you are going to change things. Make sure that you tell who the main character(s) is, and that you identify the main conflict. Do not include unimportant details in this paragraph.
- Write 5-6 more paragraphs giving your version of how the story could have ended.
- At least one of these paragraphs must include dialogue (3 lines or more) that is meaningful and helps to tell the story.

## **Project 3 – Setting Map**

Are you an artistic person? Can you visualize the setting of your book? Draw a detailed map of the setting of your story. Use a paper or poster board that is at least 24” by 26” (standard poster size). Make sure that your map is a map, not just a picture. It should have a key, a north arrow, and any other map features that are necessary. Once you have drawn the map, please label at least 5 places on the map that are significant to the plot. In your key, or another place on the map, write a short sentence telling what happened at that location. The requirements are:

- Draw a detailed, colorful map of the (main) setting of your story. If your story takes place in more than one place and you cannot fit everything on the map, then choose the location where the most exciting part of the story occurs (the climax).
- Include all the features of a map, especially a key.
- Make sure the map is the correct size.
- Label at least 5 places on the map, if not more, showing where the main events of the story took place.
- Write a sentence for each of those 5 places explaining what happened. These sentences should be either in their own key, or a paper attached to the map.
- Create a title for your map that includes the book title, author, and your name, all at the top of the map, in neat writing.

## **Project 4 – Letters**

Was your book full of fascinating characters? Imagine that the characters could talk to you and share their thoughts about what happened in the story. Write a series of letters between you and one of the people in the book. You will write a total of at least 6 letters that are each about a ½ page in length. Each letter must be typed in 12 point font, and the papers should have one inch margins. Choose any character in the story, either a main or a minor character. The character will write letters to you, you will reply. The content of each letter should be about the story, and must include details that you imagine, either how the character feels about some of the events in the story, or inside information that you make up using your imagination. The requirements:

- 3 letters written by a character in the book, 3 written by you back to that character
- Each letter on a separate piece of paper, typed, 12 point font with 1 inch margins, about ½ page long
- Each letter should refer to the people and events of the story, while also including some details that you make up
- Make sure that your name, the title, and the author are included in the upper left hand corner of the first letter, and that all the letters are stapled together.

**Part Three** – You will take a quiz on the other three books that you read (the ones you did not do a project on) in the week that you return from school. Therefore, you may want to make notes for yourself about the plot and main characters of each book as you read it so that you have something to refresh your memory when you return to school. The notes should be a brief sentence for each of the following: main characters, setting, main conflict, resolution, any other important fact about the story.

## **Summer Reading for students entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade in fall 2011**

### **Choose at least 4 books from the list below:**

Alcott, Louisa May - Eight Cousins, Rose in Bloom

Blos, Joan - A Gathering of Days

Forbes, Esther - Johnny Tremian

Frank, Anne - The Diary of a Young Girl

Golding, William - Lord of the Flies

Hesse, Karen - Out of the Dust

Mikaelsen, Ben - Touching Spirit Bear (\*\*especially for boys)

Montgomery, Lucy Maud - Anne of the Island

Mortenson, Greg (Adapted by S. Thompson) Three Cups of Tea (Young Reader's Edition)

Lewis, C.S. - Out of the Silent Planet, Perelandra

Na, An - A Step From Heaven

Nye, Robert - Beowulf: A New Telling

Rinaldi, Ann - In My Father's House

Spinelli, Jerry - Milkweed, Stargirl

Swanson, James L. - Chasing Lincoln's Killer

Tolkien, J.R.R. - The Two Towers, The Return of the King (also The Hobbit and Fellowship of the Ring, if you haven't already read them)

Verne, Jules - Journey to the Center of the Earth, Around the World in 80 Days (original, not adapted)

Whelan, Gloria - Homeless Bird

Wiesel, Elie - Night