

CRESTDALE MIDDLE SCHOOL
RIISING 8TH GRADE SUMMER/FIRST QUARTER READING ASSIGNMENT
2012-2013

"School's out for the summer!" These are the favorite words of students everywhere, but teachers and parents know that the summer is a long time to be mentally idle. This reading assignment may help to bridge that time.

Students are expected to choose a book appropriate to the course level in which they will be enrolled. (See list at end.) They are expected to complete the written project and turn it in to their language arts teacher by **Friday, September 28th**. Students may choose to begin and/or complete the assignment this summer, or work on it during the month of September. This activity will count as your first book report grade (test).

Assignment:

The objective is to read and complete a series of questions about your book.

The following criteria are to be used with all genres- fiction, nonfiction, biography, or story collection:

Assume that the book you read is part of a literature circle and that you are responsible for all the jobs. Based on your book, answer or do what is asked for each lit circle job. Use the numbers and the job titles (items 3-10) as you do each item. A separate page is not needed for each item.

1. Title

2. Author (or editor)

3. Illustrator- Indicate the most important location in the book. Draw the location and, as a caption, discuss the importance of the setting.

4. Summarizer- Summarize the book in a maximum of two paragraphs. Remember a paragraph is from five to twelve sentences long and must be indented.

5. Discussion Director- Write a total of four open-ended questions, one on each of the following topics:

a. plot b. characters c. social issue d. resolution

6. Connector- List five ways in which the book connects to your life and/or the real world. Explain the connections.

7. Investigator- Determine the type of conflict faced by the protagonist in the story. Discuss the conflict and its resolution. There could be more than one.

8. Planner- In a graphic organizer, indicate the events of the major conflict: the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

9. Vocabulary Master- Select five words from the book which must be understood to comprehend the book. List, define, and use the words in original sentences about the book. Do so in such a way that anyone would understand the meanings of the words.

10. Passage Pointer- Select one passage you feel best illustrates the conflict faced by the protagonist in the book. Quote the passage and explain how it highlights the conflict.

You must complete this report outside of class. Your final draft should be typed in standard format and font. (If handwritten, use blue/black ink only.) All reports must be turned in on or before the due date. Be sure you understand the criteria before turning in your book report. The report must be stapled together with a cover sheet. The following information must be on the cover sheet: your name, the date, Language Arts, and your teacher's name. Also, remember to edit carefully to eliminate errors!

Grading Rubric:

Title and Author: 10 points each

All other items are subject to up to 10 points deduction for incomplete work or misinformation.

Additional points will be deducted for failure to follow directions or for significant errors in spelling, grammar, or mechanics.

Book Choices

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald