



Required 7th Grade Summer Reading

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle
The Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien

Each rising seventh grade student will be required to choose **one** of the above books to read. The book that is chosen should not have been read previously. They should be ready to complete a writing assignment with their teacher upon return to school in August. The writing assignment will be completed in class and will be about the book they have chosen from the above list.

Each student should choose one additional book from the Summer Reading List attached. Please choose a book that has not been read in the past. Please return the reading log identifying the books that have been read.

It is important to give children dominion in the area of reading. This will contribute in important ways to their future success in, and enjoyment of the written word. In addition to having your child read books from the attached list, you may choose certain selections for family read-aloud. When reading to children, it is critical to keep the length appropriate. After reading a short passage, we suggest that you informally ask your child to tell back what he or she has heard, in order to improve comprehension, sequencing, synthesis, concentration, and enjoyment. You may also want to take a turn to narrate! Do not do this in a heavy-handed way, but rather with joy and enthusiasm, informally. Do not make it into a chore, or necessarily do it every time, or the child may come to not enjoy it. There are obviously many more good books that are available. This list is only the beginning! Your librarian can assist you if you tell the type of literature you desire. The terminology they will best understand is "classic literature." Remember that, with regard to all book suggestions, it is always *your* responsibility as the parent to assess a book's suitability for you and your family. We have included books which employ fantastical themes, due to the fact that we encourage children to enjoy the proper use of imagination. This is an important aspect of development, and one in which parents are urged to give their child guidance. That is, your child will be *looking to you* to help define the lines of fantasy verses reality and the proper guidelines therein. Some of these books may not be available in libraries, but it is always a good idea to request that they purchase them. There is a current trend in public libraries to purge many of the good, old classics. By requesting them, this is a way that we can change our culture for the good. If they are not in your local library, you may want to check used bookstores. Enjoy!

On the sheet enclosed, please keep track of the books your child reads, or those that you have read to him or her this summer. You will give this record to your child's teacher at the beginning of school. Thank you.

Required Summer Reading for Rising Seventh Grade Students:

Alcott, Louisa May	<i>Jo's Boys, Eight Cousins, Jack and Jill, Little Men</i>
Andreola, Karen	<i>Beautiful Girlhood</i>
Babbitt	<i>Tuck Everlasting</i>
Bunyan, John	<i>Pilgrim's Progress</i>
Burnett	<i>The Secret Garden</i>
Carroll, Lewis	<i>Alice's Adventure in Wonderland</i>
Carter, Forest	<i>The Education of the Little Tree</i>
Crane, Stephen	<i>Red Badge of Courage</i>
Dickens	<i>The Cricket on the Hearth</i>
Dickens, Charles	<i>David Copperfield</i>
George	<i>Julie of the Wolves</i>
Gipson, Fred	<i>Old Yeller</i>
Grahame	<i>Wind in the Willows</i>
Henry, Marguerite	<i>King of the Wind</i>
Homer	<i>Iliad</i>
Krensky, Stephen	<i>Conqueror and Hero: The Search for Alexander A Biography</i>
LasCasas, Bartholomew	<i>The Log of Christopher Columbus' First Voyage to America</i>
Lunn, Janet	<i>The Root Cellar</i>
MacDonald, George	<i>At the Back of the North Wind</i>
Magnuson, Sally	<i>The Flying Scotsman A Biography about Eric Liddell</i>
Marshall, Catherine	<i>Christy</i>
McGill, Alice	<i>Molly Bannaky</i>
McPherson, Joyce	<i>A Piece of the Mountain The Biography of Blaise Paschal</i>
Neville, Emily	<i>It's like That</i>
O'Dell, Scott	<i>Island of the Blue Dolphin, The Hawk that Dare Not Hunt by Day</i>
O'Hara, Mary	<i>My Friend, Flicka</i>
Pyle, Howard	<i>The Story of the Champions of the Round Table</i>
Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan	<i>The Yearling</i>
Scott	<i>Rob Roy</i>
Sewall	<i>Black Beauty</i>
Stevenson, Robert Louis	<i>Treasure Island, Kidnapped</i>
Tolkien, J.R.R.	<i>The Lord of the Rings, Farmer Giles of Ham</i>
Traver	<i>Mary Poppins</i>
Ullman, James Ramsey	<i>Banner in the Sky</i>
Verne, Jules	<i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, Around the World in 80 Days</i>
Ward	<i>The Black Stallion</i>

The following selections are Living Books from the “My Name is America” series, and are written from a boy’s perspective. They are in diary form about life in a particular period of history.

Journal of Augustus Pelletier: The Lewis and Clark Expedition by Kathryn Lasky

Journal of Biddy Owen: The Negro Leagues by Walter Dean Myers

Journal of James Edmund Reese: Civil War Union Soldier by Jim Murphy

Journal of Jasper Jonathan Pierce: A Pilgrim Boy, Plimoth Plantation 1620 by Ann Rinaldi

Journal of Scott Pendleton Collins: A WW II Soldier by Walter Dean Myers

Journal of William Thomas Emerson: A Revolutionary War Patriot by Barry Denenberg

The following selections are Living Books from the “Dear America” series, and are written from a girl’s perspective. They are in diary form about life in a particular period of history.

Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie by Kristiana Gregory

A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin by Karen Hesse

My Secret War: The WW II Diary of Madeline Beck by Mary Pope Osborne

A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee—A Slave Girl 1859 by Patricia McKissack

So Far From Home: The Diary of Mary Driscoll-An Irish Mill Girl by Barry Denenberg

Standing in the Light: The Captive Diary of Catherine Carey Logan 1763 by Mary Pope Osborne

Voyage on the Great Titanic: The Diary of Mary Ann Brady 1912 by Ellen Emerson White

West to a Land of Plenty by Jim Murphy

When Will This Cruel War Be Over? The Diary of Emma Simpson 1864 by Barry Denenberg

A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple by Kathryn Lasky