

Grade 7 Summer Reading List 2021

Required Summer Reading for all students:

Where The Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

Students will select one or more other texts from the reading list.

Recommended Books:

Fiction:

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Milkweed: A Novel by Jerry Spinelli

If I Stay by Gayle Forman

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
Purple Heart by Patricia McCormick

If You Come Softly by Jacqueline Woodson

A Voice of Her Own: Becoming Emily Dickinson by Barbara Dana

Heart of a Champion: A Novel by Carl Deuker

Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

Little Brother by Cory Doctorow

Son by Lois Lowry

Fantasy and Science Fiction:

Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty and the Beast by Robin McKinley

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

A Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula K. LeGuin

Seraphina by Rachel Hartman

Historical Fiction:

Dragon's Gate by Laurence Yep

Nightjohn by Gary Paulson

Summer of My German Soldier by Bette Greene

Non- Fiction:

The Ultimate Weapon: The Race to Develop the Atomic Bomb by Edward T. Sullivan

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland by Sally M. Walker

Mystery and Adventure:

Murder on The Orient Express by Agatha Christie

No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith

Biography/Memoir:

I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust by Livia Bitton Jackson

Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI by Ryan Smithson

Snow Falling in Spring: Coming of Age in China during the Cultural Revolution by Moying Li

Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Almost True Stories about Growing up Scieszka by Jon Scieszka

Poetry:

You and Yours by Naomi Shihab Nye

The Trouble with and Other Poems by Billy Collins

Grade 7 2021 Summer Essay Assignment

Please write a five-paragraph essay and outline in which you explore and analyze one of the themes you have encountered in *Where The Red Fern Grows*

Please take some time to organize your thoughts and write the outline first. Make sure the outline contains your thesis, main points, and evidence. The outline must be stapled to your essay.

Your essay must include:

An introduction with:

4. A clear hook/lead
5. The title and author of the text you are discussing
6. A well formulated thesis statement: the thesis statement must state the theme you wish to analyze and explore (e.g. Family, friendship, identity, war, slavery, courage, betrayal, kindness, etc.).

Three Body Paragraphs with:

1. Topic Sentences
2. Explanation and logic
3. Textual evidence in MLA format “.....” (Rawls, 12)
4. Explanation of the evidence
5. Transitional Words
6. A concluding statement

A Conclusion with:

1. A restatement of the thesis in different words
2. Implications/Observations/Questions

Take this opportunity to think about the text, formulate a clear argument, and utilize strong textual evidence for support. I look forward to reading your analysis in September!

Grade 7 Secondary Reading Assignment

Please write 3-4 paragraphs in which you present a summary and opinion of the book you selected from the reading list (five sentences per paragraph).

This second piece of writing should be formatted as follows:

An introduction with:

1. A clear topic/leading sentence.
2. The title and author of the book.
3. A brief summary of the book.

One or two supporting paragraphs with:

3. Your opinion/reflection on the book – likes, dislikes, commendations, critiques, etc.
4. Evidence from the book to support your opinion.

A conclusion with:

3. A statement reinforcing your topic sentence from your introduction.
4. Any reflections or conclusions you have made throughout reading the book that you would like to reinforce to your reader.