

**Summer Reading Assignment 2017**  
**Middle School Students**

**Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students: Two Books Required**

**Mandatory:** *Things Not Seen* by Andrew Clements  
Complete the assignment below on two 4 x 6 index cards.

**Assignment:**

**Note Card #1**

(Front of Card): Student's first and last name  
Title and author name  
Description of the setting  
Main characters  
Conflict or Problem  
Solution

(Back of card)

Theme - Explain the author's lesson or message  
Point of view - Who is telling the story?  
What connections did you make to the story?

**Note card #2**

(Front of card): Student's First and last name  
Write 3 quotes that are critical to the story (Briefly explain why each is important to story and include the page number from the text)

(Back of note card)

3- 5 discussion questions (If you were leading a discussion group on this novel, what questions would you ask?)

**Choice:**

*Choose one of the following or your own choice: Students' own choice must be a book that has a minimum for 150 pages and is age appropriate.*

*Rain Reign*, Ann M. Martin

*Found*, Margaret Peterson Haddix

*Counting by 7s*, Holly Goldberg Sloan

*The Mysterious Benedict Society*, Trenton Lee Stewart

*Endymion Spring*, Matthew Skelton

*Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*, Jack Gantos

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*Who Put that Hair in My Toothbrush?* Jerry Spinelli

*Listen, Slowly*, Thanhha Lai

**Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students: Two Books Required**

**Mandatory:** *Skink No Surrender* Carl Hiaasen

**Assignment:** write a brief 2-4 sentence summary at the end of each chapter. Summary can be done directly in the book or on post-it notes at the end of the chapters.

**Choice:**

*Choose one of the following or your own choice: Students' own choice must be a book that has a minimum of 250 pages and is age appropriate.*

**Assignment:** Students are to identify the following literary elements in each chapter of the book. The elements can be highlighted directly in the book or listed on a document (must include page numbers for each literary element).

**Literary Elements to consider:** similes, metaphors, moods, personifications, characterization, symbolism, alliteration, repetition, etc...

**Suggested Titles:**

*The Raft* by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*A Mango-Shaped Space* by Wendy Mass

*The Red Pyramid* by Rick Riordan

*Messenger* by Lois Lowry

*Boy at War* by Harry Mazer

*The Big Field* by Mike Lupica

*Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper

**Summer Reading Assignment 2017**  
**Middle School Students**

**Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Two Books Required**

**Mandatory:** *They Cage the Animals at Night* -- Jennings Michael Burch

**Assignment:**

1. Keep a journal that outlines your reaction to each chapter of the book.
2. Write a three-paragraph essay that stands as a final reflection to explain Jennings's struggles and his inspirations to overcome them.

**Choice:**

*Choose one of the following or your own choice: Students' own choice must be a book that has a minimum of 250 pages and is age appropriate.*

**Assignment:** Submit a creative visual display that is like a trailer for the book. For example, a commercial, newspaper article, flyer, blog, etc...

**Suggested Titles:**

*I Will Always Write Back* by Caitlin Alifirenka

*The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel* - Michael Scott

*The Book Thief* - Marcus Zusak

*The Selection* – Kiera Cass

*Chains* – Laurie Halse Anderson