



Language Arts-Incoming 7th grade

Summer Assignment

Students are required to read **two** books-one mandatory and one book of choice from the list below- and complete the writing assignment for each book.

Mandatory:

The Stars Beneath Our Feet by David Barclay Moore

Assignment:

On a Google document, answer the seven questions below. Each answer should be at least 4-5 sentences in length. Restate the question and give your answer. You **MUST** include text evidence to support your response. These questions will be discussed in class when we return in August.

1. Lolly states that Rockit's "console felt like it was a gift for another kid." (p. 25) Why? Compare Steve's and Rockit's presents. How do these gifts influence Lolly's decision to break down his Lego kits that are built "exactly how [they] appeared on the box"? (p. 9)
2. Why does the author include flashbacks in which Jermaine is alive? What does the author achieve with these transitions?
3. What does the coyote, Nicky, bring to the story? Why are these two quotes about Nicky important?
"Our coyote was part of a species in danger. Hunted down and shot up. We knew how it felt." (p. 170)
"Our coyote was nowhere. Disappeared. Like everything else does sooner or later. Nicky was gone. Like Harmonee. Like Jermaine."
(pp. 244-245)
4. Why does Lolly agree with Mr. Ali's comment that a storage room became his world? How does Lolly's world feel "hijacked" (p. 98) when Big Rose joins him in the storage room? Why is Big Rose there in the first place?

5. Explain the following metaphor: “Kids like us, me and Vega and Rose, were our own islands, living in a mad river.” (p. 270)

6. What does the eventual removal of Jermaine’s bed from Lolly’s room symbolize?

7. The story starts with Lolly being followed by two older boys (Harp and Gully) and his explanation of how “crews” work where he lives. How does the author manage to transfer this feeling of being followed and under pressure throughout the story?

Book of Choice:

Choose one of the books from the list below and complete the assignment.

Assignment:

On a Google document, write a brief 2-4 sentence summary at the end of each chapter. Make note of any surprising or confusing parts of each chapter and any personal connections you can make with events in the story.

Choose ONE of the following **titles:**

Bud, Not Buddy- Christopher Paul Curtis

Refugee- Alan Gratz

Fever 1793 - Laurie Halse Anderson

The Red Pyramid - Rick Riordan

The Giver or *The Messenger* - Lois Lowry

The Six Day Hero- Tammar Stein

The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe- C.S. Lewis

Out of My Mind - Sharon Draper

The Girl Who Drank The Moon-Kelly Barnhill

Wolf Hollow- Lauren Wolk

New Kid- Jerry Craft