

## Summer Reading

Reading is the best way to continue to expand your knowledge, grow your vocabulary, and experience an adventure over the summer. Students will need to read two books and complete two learning activities. **These readings and learning activities will be due on Tuesday, August 31st, 2021**

Which books did you read? (One must be *Wonder* and your second is a choice book).

Book 1: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

Book 2: \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

**Learning Activity One:** After completing the two books: *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio and your choice read, compare and contrast an element of the book.

Write a letter (using the letter format—*Dear Future ELA Teacher,*) to your teacher. Give a **brief summary** (6-8 sentences) of **each** book at the beginning of the letter, and then, *comparing and contrasting* on **one** of the following in the **body of the letter**:

- **A specific character from each book:** describe each character—explain how the characters are similar and different from one another, especially referring to their actions, words, and/or their ultimate outcome at the end of the book.
- **A theme from each book:** explain the key message from each book—describe how these messages (themes) are similar or different and how they can be applied to your world.  
Ideas of themes found in literature: Perseverance, Growing Up, Innocence, Optimism, Survival, Justice.
- **A key event during the plot from each book,** explain an event from each text and share the characters' actions along with the overall impact this event has on the storyline. Compare and contrast this event to another key event in your second book.

**End the letter with** how this book has changed you. How and why are you different after completing the book? Then, don't forget to sign off on your letter!

**Learning Activity Two:** Pick option A or B.

- **A - Compare-and-Contrast:** Create a compare-and-contrast poster of the **two books' themes**.  
**Think: what is the message of each story? What can the reader learn?**
  - Each project should be on an 8.5"x 11" (regular printer-sized) sheet of paper. Fold the paper in half, and use images, words, and/or symbols to represent each book on each side of the paper.
  - You can draw the images, use cut outs from magazines/internet, and/or create an original poem for each book.
- **B - Characterization:**
  - Draw an outline of one main character in each novel. Inside the outline, write/place symbols/pictures to describe the internal elements of his/her character(s). Think about character traits such as honesty or bravery.
  - Outside the outline, write/place symbols/pictures to describe the external elements of his/her character. Think about physical characteristics like the way the character looks or dresses. Include five different characteristics or traits per character.
  - Each project should be on an 8.5"x 11" (regular printer-sized) sheet of paper. Fold the paper in half to portray your two characters, one on each side.

\*\*\*Whatever you do, be creative! \*\*\*

(Turn over for a recommended books)

## Summer Reading Book Recommendations

**\*This is just a small list of the countless books you could read this summer. Happy reading :)**

**Just FYI- you should be able to read a book in a week if it is a good fit book. The more you read, the easier it will be to transition back to school come August. It is also the best way to avoid the summer slump. It is said that to avoid the summer slump, you should read 5 books!**

### **Fantasy/Dystopia**

Divergent  
City of Ember  
Lightening Thief Series  
Harry Potter  
Race the Night  
The Left Handed Fate  
The Hunger Games Series  
Maze Runner  
Eragon

### **Nonfiction**

Give Me Liberty- Russell Freedman  
Be a Changemaker- Laurie Ann Thompson  
Lincoln's Grave Robbers  
Hana's Suitcase  
Brown Girl Dreaming  
Red Scarf Girl

### **Historical Fiction**

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas  
Flygirl  
A Long Walk to Water  
Mighty Miss Malone  
The War that Saved my Life  
The Watcher  
The Button War by Avi

### **Adventure-**

The Journey Back- Priscilla Cummings  
The Other Side of Truth- Beverly Naidoo  
Alabama Moon- Watt Key  
Brian's Hunt- Gary Paulsen  
May

### **Biography-**

I am Malala  
A Long Way Gone  
Promises to Keep  
Brown Girl Dreaming- Jacqueline Woodson  
Hidden like Anne Frank  
Hidden Figures- YA version  
Boys in the Boat- YA version  
Unbroken- YA version

### **High Interest Fiction**

The Misfits  
The Seventh Most Important Thing  
Lion Boy  
Home of the Brave  
Wednesday Wars  
Rules  
Eleven  
Counting by 7's  
Rain Reign  
Okay for Now  
Fish in a Tree  
A Handful of Stars  
Speak (mature content)  
The Crossover (a verse novel)  
Mother Daughter Book Club  
From You to Me by K.A. Holt  
Rhyme Schemer by K.A. Holt (a verse novel)

### **Social Justice/Social Concerns Issues**

Save Me a Seat by Gita Varadarajan *bullying*  
Front Desk by Kelly Yang *immigration*  
Wringer by Jerry Spinelli *care for God's creation*  
Bystander by James Preller *bullying*  
Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti  
Bowling *special needs & disabilities*  
Inside Out and Back Again (a verse novel) by  
Thanhha Lai *refugees*  
Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollen *YA edition*  
*socially responsible eating*