Summer Reading List and Summer Reading Assignment

The goals of our summer reading assignments are to expose students to various authors and genres of literary works, challenge, motivate, and entertain students as they become life-long readers, and help students improve their reading skills. Research shows that students improve their reading comprehension, vocabulary, reading rate, and general reading skills through practice. All students entering grades six through eight should read the required books this summer and are encouraged to read at least one additional book from the “Suggested Reading” List. The books found on the lists may be found at libraries, in book stores, and online. Enjoy! (*Martín-Chang, S. L. & Gould, U. N. (2008). Exploring differential links to vocabulary, comprehension and reading rate. Journal of Research in Reading, 31(3), 273-284)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Summer Reading</th>
<th>Rising 6th Grade Scholars</th>
<th>Rising 7th Grade Scholars</th>
<th>Rising 8th Grade Scholars</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Song of Solomon</strong></td>
<td>by Toni Morrison</td>
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<td>Grade Level Equivalent 5.6</td>
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<td><strong>Esperanza Rising</strong></td>
<td>by Pam Muñoz Ryan</td>
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<td>Grade Level Equivalent 5.5</td>
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<td><strong>A Raisin in the Sun</strong></td>
<td>by Lorraine Hansberry</td>
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<td>Grade Level Equivalent 6.8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl</strong></td>
<td>by Anne Frank</td>
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<td>Grade Level Equivalent 5.9</td>
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<td><strong>Jane Eyre</strong></td>
<td>by Charlotte Bronte</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Level Equivalent 7.9</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Their Eyes Were Watching God</strong></td>
<td>by Zora Neale Hurston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Level Equivalent 7.9</td>
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Summer reading assignments are due the second Friday upon students’ return to school in August. Students will be required to take a quiz, present their summer reading assignments, and engage in class discussion regarding their summer reading within the first one or two weeks of school. Any additional assignments or assessments given will be at the discretion of the individual language arts and reading (ELAR) teachers.

**Summer Reading Assignment (6th Grade, 7th Grade, and 8th Grade)**

**Instructions/Directions (Please read and follow all instructions/directions carefully)**

1. Create a creative, original book cover for each of your required books by taking a piece of plain, unlined, paper (NOT notebook paper – may be construction paper as long as writing is easy to read) and folding it in half.
2. Write the book title and the author on the front cover. Remember to capitalize and underline book titles. Draw a picture or design on the cover that represents or tells something about the book. BE CREATIVE AND ORIGINAL! DO NOT COPY a picture or design that is already on or in the book.
3. Inside, neatly fold two pieces of paper and neatly staple or tape those pages inside your cover. You will end up with eight pages inside your booklet. Number each page in the bottom, right corner.
4. On Page 1 create a Table of Contents which includes the name of each section and the page number on which it may be found. On Page 2 write a summary, written IN YOUR OWN WORDS and tell a complete summary of the book, which highlights main events within the book, details the plot of the book, and introduces main characters and settings. At the bottom of Page 2 write a critique which includes a recommendation of at least three to five sentences, whether or not you would recommend the book to someone else and why or why not, and whether or not you enjoyed the book; give specific reasons related to the book. On to top of Page 3 include a colorful picture representing your favorite or most memorable scene from the book. Include three to five sentences describing the scene. On the bottom of Page 3, write the Book Title, Author, Genre, Setting (Time Frames and Places), Theme (Main Message), and Ten New or Interesting Vocabulary Words from the Book (include the definition for each). On Pages 4 & 5 (the centerfold) create a Character Analysis Page which includes pictures of the major characters in the book (as you believe they would look). For each picture/character, include a written description of at least four to five sentences about the character’s age, personality, and his/her relationship(s) with other main characters in the book. While reading, keep a journal of your thoughts, predictions, visualizations, questions, and connections. Make at least 10 entries. On Pages 6 & 7, record your journal entries with the date, pages read, and notes/reflections for each entry. On Page 8 write a Letter to the Author; include why you enjoyed the book, at least two questions about the book, his/her writing style, his/her motivations for writing the book, and anything else (appropriate) you would like to include in the letter. On the back cover, write your first and last name, include a picture of yourself or draw a self-portrait, your grade level (for the 2016-2017 school year), three adjectives you feel describe you, and three career goals.
5. Check your work and be sure that you have used correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling throughout. Do not use clip art or images from the internet. All writing should be typed or neatly written in blue or black ink (If I cannot read it, I cannot grade it!). Drawings may be done using pencil. Use markers, crayons, or colored pencils to enhance drawings. BE CREATIVE!
Summer 2016
Suggested Readings for ALL Students

It is suggested that students read at least one or two additional novels. Please do not feel overwhelmed by the Suggested Readings List. We want to provide you with a wealth of suggestions and options while also not limiting you by grade level or reading level. Some of the titles you will see, read, and interpret during the school year and others may be mentioned or referenced. Broaden your horizons!

Suggested Poems to Read (It's WELL to know most of these poems during the school year)

A Dream Within a Dream by Edgar Allan Poe
Kumbalala Ke by Edgar Allan Poe
Gilded Bird by Maya Angelou
Daddy by Sylvia Plath
Do not go gentle into that good night by Dylan Thomas
Harlem by Langston Hughes
Having a Coke With You by Frank O'Hara
I died for Beauty, but was scarce by Emily Dickinson
I, Too, by Langston Hughes
Why穰eachard Kipling
Mother to Son by Langston Hughes
Phenomenal Woman by Maya Angelou
Do You Want to Be a Writer? by Charles Bukowski
Still I Rise by Maya Angelou
The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe
The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost
The Rose That Grew From Concrete by Tupac Shakur
The Tell-Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe
The Way Through The Woods by Rudyard Kipling
This Is Just to Say by William Carlos Williams
We Read Cool by Gwendolyn Brooks

Assignment Summary
Cover Page/Front Cover: Book Information
Page 1: Table of Contents
Page 2: Book Summary
Page 2: Critique/Recommendations
Page 3: Picture & Caption
Page 3: Book Information
Pages 4 & 5: Character Analysis
Pages 6 & 7: Journal Entries
Page 8: Letter to the Author
Back Cover: Student Information

Should you have any questions about the assignment, feel free to contact Ms. Claitt at raquista.claitt@famu.edu. (Allow 48 hours for a response)

Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.
–Frederick Douglass