

2017 Middle School Summer Reading List

All students entering 8th grade (two books to read):

Non-Fiction

Freedom Walkers-The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott by Russell Freedman

Choose **one** from the following three options to complete as a quiz grade in Literature. Students not completing the assignment will be given a zero.

1. The black community organized the “taxicab army” to help transport those who were boycotting the busses in Montgomery. Create a brochure that explains the “taxicab army” that might have been distributed in the churches. You may have to do some extra research.
2. On an 8 ½x11 paper, draw/print/cut out and glue 8-10 objects or symbols to represent the book. Using *complete* sentences explain what each object/symbol represents and explain how the symbol is important to the book.
3. Complete each of these eight ideas with words or ideas from the book:
This book made me wish that...
Realize that...
Decide that...
Wonder about...
See that...
Believe that...
Feel that...
Hope that...
In a one page, typed, double spaced essay, explain whether or not you would recommend this book to others.
WHY or WHY NOT?

Fiction:

Nothing But the Truth by Avi

Become a reporter. Interview three different characters from the book. Ask each character between five and seven questions about what they think of the incident involving Philip Malloy. Try to vary your questions so that you aren’t asking each person the same thing. *Ideally*, this would be videotaped. If you are unable to tape, please write out your questions and answers and include one detailed illustration for each of the three characters being interviewed. We will show videos in class, so be creative and have fun with the assignment! This will count as a quiz grade in literature class, and students not completing the assignment will be given a zero.

OR... *Chinese Cinderella* by Adeline YenMah

1. Make a character collage for the protagonist, WuMei. Look through magazines, other sources or create your own images to find pictures and quotes to show her character. Then, in a complete paragraph, explain how she grew or changed. Please use literary language and support your claims with evidence from the text.
2. Pretend you are Wu Mei. Design a journal. Make at least **5** journal entries. Be sure to use the book as a guide so you can be accurate according to the culture and time period. Do not make up stories, they must complement the plot, culture and time period of the novel. Journal entries must be at least **7 sentences** long.

2017 Middle School Summer Reading List

All students entering 7th grade (two books to read):

Non-Fiction

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

Choose **one** from the following three options to complete as a quiz grade in Literature. Students not completing the assignment will be given a zero.

1. Create a children's picture book based on the book. Draw or create pictures that illustrate the important concepts and characters of the story line of the book. Be sure to tell the main points in your picture book.
2. Create a timeline of 8-10 events from the book, including an illustration and a caption for each event.
3. Create a collage with at least 5-7 items that represent the book. Draw/create them on a sheet of 8 ½x11 paper. You must write at least a paragraph (5-7 sentences) about each item explaining its significance and how it relates to the book

Fiction

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi

Choose **one** from the following three options to complete as a quiz grade in Literature. Students not completing the assignment will be given a zero.

1. Shows Charlotte's character traits when she came aboard The Seahawk in Liverpool vs. when she stepped off in Providence. Show how Charlotte changed during the trip using pictures and words. Another option would be to make a **Before and After** collage showing her before her voyage and after it. This should be done on an 8 ½x11 paper.
2. Charlotte's Phases of the Moon: You will create a "timeline-like" chart of the moon phases (look them up). For each of the phases, you will be revealing the changes in Charlotte Doyle from the beginning of the story to the end. As described in "An Important Warning," she is not the "same" Charlotte. You will be *illustrating* her physical changes, while *describing* her personal changes.

OR... *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne

1. Create a Word Collage. Write the title of the book in the center of a sheet of paper. Then look through magazines or newspapers for words, phrases, and sentences that illustrate or tell something about your book. As you look, think in terms of the theme, setting, plot, as well as characters. Work to words, phrases, or sentences so the whole sheet of paper will be covered. The visual impact of the collage should tell a potential reader a lot about the book. In addition, write a one page, typed, double spaced short essay, to explain whether or not you would recommend this book to others. WHY or WHY NOT?
2. Create a Diary for Bruno or Shmuel. Write four diary entries that your character would write and include details about what happens in the story. Diary entries should be at least two paragraphs long and they need to connect to the events in the story, your entries must be accurate to the culture, time period and events of the novel. Your diary needs to have a cover page with a picture on it that relates to the story.