

## **Middle School Summer Reading Assignment**

### **Bloom's Taxonomy**

**Summer 2023**

Dear students,

First and foremost, enjoy your summer! The purpose of this assignment is not to overwhelm, but to keep the cogs of your brain turning over the summer! The books lists to choose from and the directions for the assignment are below. If you have any questions, please ask your homeroom teacher BEFORE we let out for summer break so we can clarify it for you! Happy Reading!

**Book List (choose one book from your upcoming grade level category)**

### **Rising 6th Graders**

- **Signs of Survival: A Memoir of the Holocaust**  
<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/signs-of-survival-a-memoir-of-the-holocaust>
- **The Blackhorn Key by: Kevin Sands**  
<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/the-blackthorn-key-book-1>
- **Not an Easy Win by: Chrystal D. Giles**  
<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/not-an-easy-win>
- **Dear Student by: Elly Swartz**  
<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/dear-student>

- **Fast Pitch** by: Nic Stone

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/fast-pitch>

- **Map of Flames** by: Lisa McMann

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/map-of-flames-the-forgotten-five-book-1>

- **When Winter Robeson Comes** by: Brenda Woods

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/when-winter-robeson-came>

## **Rising 7th Graders**

- **The School of Whatnots** by: Margaret Peterson Haddix

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/the-school-for-whatnots>

- **Wolf Hollow** by: Lauren Wolk

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/wolf-hollow>

- **The Boy on the Wooden Box** by: Leon Leyson, Marilyn J. Harran

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/the-boy-on-the-wooden-bo>  
[x](#)

- **The Hunger Games** by: Suzanna Collins

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/the-hunger-games-book-1>

- **White Rose** by: Kip Wilson

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/white-rose>

- **Ain't Burned All the Bright** by: Jason Reynolds

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-reviews/aint-burned-all-the-bright>

### **Rising 8th Graders**

Rising 8th Graders may choose any book of their choice. **The book needs to be appropriate for a Christian School and must be a book you have never read before. The book they choose must be a fiction book, at least 150 pages long, and may NOT be a graphic novel. A good place to check the appropriateness of a book is [commonsemmedia.org](https://www.commonsemmedia.org)**

## Directions for assignment:

You must read your entire book(s) and then choose questions below to answer.

1. You must earn a total of **25 POINTS**.
2. First, type the question and the category of the question. Second, type your answers in complete sentences.
3. You may answer **no more than 2** Knowledge questions and 2 Comprehension questions.
4. **At least 1** of the questions must come from the **Evaluation** section.
5. **At least 1** of the questions must come from the **Synthesis** section
6. This assignment must be **TYPED**.
7. The assignment can either be shared with your teacher through Google Classroom, or printed and turned in on the first day of school. **ALL SUMMER READING IS DUE BY FRI. AUG. 11**

### Book Review Questions

#### Knowledge – 1 point each

1. Make a list of facts you learned from the story (at least 10 facts)
2. List each character and describe them.
3. List five new words you learned in the book. Write down their dictionary meanings.
4. What problem(s) does one of the characters have and how does he/she solve it?
5. Where does the story take place?
6. List the places mentioned in the book.
7. What other books has this author written?
8. What is the time period in which the story takes place?

#### Comprehension – 2 points each

1. What is the problem in the book and how is it solved?
2. Does anyone in the book do something you do not like? What is it? Why do you dislike it?
3. What kind of book is this? List three pieces of evidence to support this.
4. What is the author's purpose(s) in writing this book?
5. List three to five major events in the story in chronological order.
6. In your own words, explain the introduction of the story.
7. How does the main character feel throughout the book? Give evidence of this.
8. How does the title relate to the story?

**Application – 3 points each**

1. Does this book remind you of anything that has happened to you? What? Why?  
(4-5 sentences)
2. Does this book give you any new ideas about yourself? What? Why? (4-5 sentences)
3. If you were in a situation like one in the book, how would you have acted? Be sure to tell what the situation is. (a paragraph)
4. What lesson(s) did you learn from the story? (4-5 sentences)
5. Tell about a time in which something in the story also happened to you or someone you know.
6. List the places in the book that are important. Make a map including these places as you imagine they may look. (It can be any kind of map: neighborhood, city, country, etc. Staple the map to the back of your questions. The map does not need to be any bigger than a regular piece of computer paper.)
7. What changes would have to be made if the book occurred about 100 years ago or 100 years in the future?

**Analysis – 4 points each - A paragraph should be 5 - 7 sentences.**

1. If your story occurred long ago, compare that time to today in a good paragraph. If it is a modern story, compare it to a long time ago and tell what would be different.
2. Choose one of the main characters. Think of a shape that fits that person's personality. Draw the shape and describe the character inside the shape.
3. Decide which parts of the book include the five W's (who, what, when, where, why) and the H (how) then write a good paragraph for a newspaper article including these facts.
4. In a good paragraph, explain the main idea of the book.
5. In a good paragraph, compare this book to the last book you read.

### **Synthesis – 5 points each**

1. What part of the story would you change? Why? (at least 5 sentences)
2. Write another short story or one-act play using the same characters.
3. Write a poem about this book or one of its characters.
4. Pretend you are the author giving a book talk for your book. Write a paragraph telling what you will say. (5-7 sentences)
5. Make a six-section comic strip with captions showing the main events of the story.
6. Choose an interesting character from your book. Think of what his/her dislikes are then think of a gift you would like to give him/her. Design a greeting card to go along with the gift. In the greeting card, explain what the gift is and why you are giving it.

### **Evaluation – 6 points each**

**NOTE: Each question in this category must be answered in a paragraph - 5-7 sentences.**

1. Whom do you think the author intended to read this book? Why?
2. If you could save only one character from the book (in the event of a disaster), who would it be and why would you save him/her?
3. Is the title a good one or a poor one for the story? Why or why not?
4. Do you like the way the story ends? Why or why not?
5. Which character in the book would you choose for a friend? Why?
6. Tell me about the most exciting part of the book. Be sure to include at least three reasons for your response.