

Rising 5th grade Summer Reading Assignment (2016)

In order to better prepare our students academically, Strong Rock Christian School incorporates a summer reading program to encourage reading and enhance language arts skills. Students will select a single book from the list for each grade level. After reading the selected book, students will complete book cards. These cards will be due the first week of school in August. This information will be posted on our school website this summer. If you enroll after July 1, 2016, your book cards will be due August 31, 2016.

Rising 5th Grade Titles:

The Bridge to Teribithia by Katherine Paterson

An extraordinarily powerful tribute to friendship, this Newbery Award-winning novel recounts the unlikely friendship of a country boy, Jess, and his neighbor, an uprooted city girl named Leslie. When Leslie is killed during a storm while trying to reach Teribithia, their secret hiding place, Jess must gather all his strength to come to terms with his loss and find a way to heal. (http://www.educationworld.com/summer_reading/6th_grade.shtml)

Old Yeller by Fred Gipson

A story of a boy and his dog in the Texas hill country ranks high in the annals of boy and dogdom. (Kirkus Reviews, July 1, 1956)

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce. Includes an introduction and sidebar commentary by the author. (Saratoga Springs Library Online Catalog)

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell:

Unusual story of an Indian girl who spent eighteen years alone on a rocky island off the coast of California. (Saratoga Springs Library Online Catalog)

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Rising Fifth Grade Assignment

Read one book from the list and complete book cards. This activity will count for extra credit in your fifth grade language arts class. There is no penalty for not completing the project for rising fifth grade students.

Book Card Requirements:

___ These index cards need to be the **large (5x8 inches) size**.

___ Write OR type on one side of the cards only.

___ Write your name on the back of EACH card.

___ Place a rubber band around the cards to turn them in.

___ **#1- Title Card:** Write the title, underline the title, put the author's name, and your name. Draw and color an illustration that represents the book.

___ **#2- Setting Card:** Write at least four sentences to describe the settings of your book.

Hint!! The Setting is the time and place of the story. Is it set a long time ago or now? Does it take place in another country or in an imaginary place? How much time passes in the story – a day? a year? A lifetime?

___ **#3- Plot Summary Card:** Summarize the main events of the book. Write 8-12 complete sentences.

Hint!! The Plot is what happens. You want to summarize what the story is mostly about. What is the main event or conflict? What things lead up to it? What happens as a result? How does the story end? (Sometimes you want to avoid telling the ending, or giving away the secret of the story.)

___ **#4- Character Card:** List the major characters by name and write a one or two sentence description of each.

Hint!! The Characters are who the story is about. The main character is called the protagonist. Who are the other important characters? Do they help or hinder the protagonist? Is there an antagonist? Why are they important?

___ **#5- Conflict Card:** Explain the main conflict of the book and tell how it is resolved. (1-2 sentences)

Hint!! The Conflict is the problem in the story? There may be one big conflict and several smaller ones- focus on the main one. Think about the types of conflict to help: Person vs. Self, Person vs. Person, Person vs. Society, Person vs. Unknown, Person vs. Nature, Person vs. Machine. Choose one to explain for the conflict in the book.

Go to www.teachertube.com and type in "Conflict in Literature".

___ **#6- Theme Card:** Explain a theme of this book in 3-4 sentences.

Hint!! The Theme is the main lesson/moral of the story. Some examples might be the importance of friendship or how to be courageous in a difficult situation. Tell what you think the theme is and how you know.

Give two examples of the theme you chose. How is it demonstrated in the story?

Hint!! Go to www.youtube.com and type in "Identifying Theme" by Katie Turner.

___#7- **Point of View**: Choose the type of point of view from which this story is told and explain how you know: 1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person, etc (1-2 sentences)

Hint!! Go to www.schooltube.com and type in "Point of View Grade 7 ELA Flipped Lesson".

___#8- **Book Review Card**: In 5-7 sentences, write your overall opinion and impression of this book. Be sure to give detailed support (reasons why) for your opinion.

Hint!! Some questions you might want to answer are:

- Do you like the story? Why or why not?
- What was the best part of the book? Why?
- How did the story make you feel? Did you feel different things at different points in the story?
- Would you recommend it to friends?
- Would you read other books by this author?
- What new things did you learn from this book?

Rising 6th grade Summer Reading Assignment (2016)

In order to better prepare our students academically, Strong Rock Christian School incorporates a summer reading program to encourage reading and enhance language arts skills. Students will select a single book from the list for each grade level. After reading the selected book, students will complete book cards. These cards will be due the first week of school in August. This information will be posted on our school website this summer. If you enroll after July 1, 2016, your book cards will be due August 31, 2016.

Rising 6th Grade Titles:

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

Meg Murry and her family receive a surprise visit from an unearthly stranger out of another dimension in time.

The River by Gary Paulsen

In this exciting sequel to *Hatchet*, 15-year-old Brian Robeson, who survived alone in the wilderness for 54 days, returns to the wilderness at the request of a government survival school. This time, however, he won't be alone:

Derek Holtzer, a government psychologist, will accompany him to observe and take notes. But during a freak storm, Derek is hit by lightning and falls into a coma. Afraid that Derek will die of dehydration unless he can get him to a doctor, Brian's only hope is to build a raft and try to transport Derek a hundred miles down the river to a trading post. (http://www.educationworld.com/summer_reading/6th_grade.shtml)

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids. (<http://www.arbookfind.com/bookdetail.aspx?q=29554&l=EN&client=SuccessfulReader>)

Travel Team by Mike Lupica

After he is cut from his travel basketball team--the very same team that his father once led to national prominence--twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory.

(Saratoga Springs Library Online Catalog)

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Rising 6th grade reading requirements:

Read one book from the list above and complete the book cards. This activity will count as quiz grade in your language arts class.

Book Card Requirements: These index cards need to be the large (5x8 inches) size. You may combine the following elements, but please write only on one side of the cards.

1. Title Card: Must include the title of the book punctuated correctly (All book titles are underlined when writing them by hand.); author's name; illustration that represents the book's subject.
2. Setting: Write at least four sentences to present the setting of your book. (When and where did the story take place? Use adjectives to describe the locations.)
3. Plot Summary: This is the most important part of the card. This should be an 8-10 sentence paragraph in which you briefly summarize the main points of the story and prove to me that you have read it. You must include at least one sentence about the conclusion of the story.
4. Main characters: List the main characters with a 1-2 sentence description of each.
5. Conflict: 1-2 sentences about the main conflict. What is the overall conflict or problem in the story? How does it get resolved in the end?
6. Theme: What is the main idea or "moral" of the story? Is there a lesson to be learned? How does the author of the story use the characters to illustrate the theme? Use 3-4 complete sentences.
7. Point of View: Which point of view did the author use when writing the narration of the story? How can the reader identify the point of view? Use 1-2 complete sentences.
8. Book Review Card: In 5-7 sentences, write your overall opinion and impression of the book and give detailed support for your opinion.

Rising 7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment (2016)

In order to better prepare our students academically, Strong Rock Christian School incorporates a summer reading program to encourage reading and enhance language arts skills. Students will select a single book from the list. After reading the selected book, students will complete book cards. These cards will be due the first week of school in August. This information will be posted on our school website this summer. If you enroll after July 1, 2016, your book cards will be due August 31, 2016.

Rising 7th Grade Book List

Swanson, James L. (2009). *Chasing Lincoln's Killer*.

“Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.” – Scholastic

Lewis, C.S. (1950). *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.

“Air-raids over London during WWII compel four siblings — Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy — to be sent away from the city to the house of a kindly, but remote Professor "who lived in the heart of the country." There is much to discover in the country: woods, mountains, owls, eagles, maybe even hawks and snakes. But the children will soon discover that the Professor's large house, staffed by three servants, holds even more mystery. It is a house filled with unexpected places, including a room which holds nothing but a large wardrobe, which Lucy opens one rainy day, never dreaming that the wardrobe is a passageway into Narnia.” – Scholastic, Inc.

This is the second book in *The Chronicles of Narnia* series. Seventh grade students read the third book in the series during the school year.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson (1910). *The Secret Garden*.

“When orphaned Mary Lennox comes to live at her uncle's great house on the Yorkshire Moors, she finds it full of secrets. The mansion has nearly one hundred rooms, and her uncle keeps himself locked up. And at night, she hears the sound of crying down one of the long corridors. The gardens surrounding the large property are Mary's only escape. Then, Mary discovers a secret garden, surrounded by walls and locked with a missing key.” - Books-a-Million

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Read one book from the list and complete the book cards. This activity will count as a quiz grade in your language arts class. Book Card Requirements: These index cards need to be the large (5x8 inches) size. You may combine the elements on a card, but please write only on one side of the cards.

For *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and *The Secret Garden* complete the book cards as listed below.

Title Card: Must include the title of the book punctuated correctly (All book titles are underlined when writing them by hand.); author's name; illustration that represents the book's subject.

Setting: Write at least four sentences to present the setting of your book. (When and where did the story take place? Use adjectives to describe the locations.)

Plot Summary: This is the most important part of the card. This should be an 8-10 sentence paragraph in which you briefly summarize the main points of the story and prove to me that you have read it. You must include at least one sentence about the conclusion of the story.

Main characters: List the main characters with a 1-2 sentence description of each.

Conflict: 1-2 sentences about the main conflict. What is the overall conflict or problem in the story? How does it get resolved in the end?

Theme: What is the main idea or “moral” of the story”? Is there a lesson to be learned? How does the author of the story use the characters to illustrate the theme? Use 3-4 complete sentences.

Point of View: Which point of view did the author use when writing the narration of the story? How can the reader identify the point of view? Use 1-2 complete sentences.

Book Review Card: In 5-7 sentences, write your overall opinion and impression of the book and give detailed support for your opinion.

For *Chasing Lincoln’s Killer* complete the book cards listed below.

Title Card: Must include the title of the book punctuated correctly (All book titles are underlined when writing them by hand.); author’s name; illustration that represents the book’s subject.

Setting: Write at least 4 sentences to present the setting of your book. (When and where did the story take place? Use adjectives to describe the locations.)

Book Summary: This is the most important part of the card. This should be an 8-10 sentence paragraph in which you briefly summarize the main points of the book and prove to me that you have read it.

Important People: List the main people in the story with a 1-2 sentence description of each.

Three Facts You Learned: Names three interesting facts you learned from reading this non-fiction book about the person, event, etc. Use 3 or more complete sentences.

Two Lessons: Name two events or situations or ideas that were inspiring, fascinating, or that taught you some sort of lesson from this book. Use 4 or more complete sentences.

Book Review Card: In 5-7 sentences, write your overall opinion and impression of the book and give detailed support for your opinion.

7th Grade PACE Summer Reading Assignment 2016

- I. Complete the 7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment.**
- II. In addition to the 7th Grade Assignment, the PACE student should read one additional book of his/her choice. The book should be at least 200 pages in length. (If it is not 200 pages in length, the student may choose to read 2 books of at least 110 pages each.) The book can be from any genre in the fiction category.**
- III. While reading the book, the student should keep a spiral notebook containing the following information: (The notebook should be kept in the order below.)**
 - A. Title, Author, Genre**
 - B. Setting – 1-2 paragraphs describing the setting**
 - C. Main Character – 1-2 paragraphs describing the character and his/her conflict(s) in the story.**
 - D. List of Characters as they appear in the story. Include the following:**
 - 1. Details of how the character is important to the story.**
 - 2. One quote from the character.**

E. Vocabulary – keep a list of at least 10 vocabulary words from the book. (These should either be words in which you are unfamiliar or words that you find interesting.

- 1. Write the word;**
- 2. Copy the sentence;**
- 3. List the page number;**
- 4. Give the dictionary definition;**
- 5. Illustrate the word.**

F. Summary/Book Review – 3 paragraph essay. The first paragraph should be a summary, and the second and third paragraphs should be a book review. The summary should be hand written in the spiral notebook. The summary is a rough draft. It will be edited and finalized at a later date.

If the student has chosen to read two books, he/she will do the assignment for each book. The same notebook should be used for both assignments.

If you have questions concerning the assignment, you may email me at scardin@strong-rock.com .

8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment (2016)

In order to better prepare our students academically, Strong Rock Christian School incorporates a summer reading program to encourage reading and enhance language arts skills. Students will select one book from the 8th grade choices. After reading the book, students will complete book cards. These cards will be due the first week of school in August. This information will be posted on our school website this summer. If you enroll after July 1, 2016, your book cards will be due August 31st.

Rising 8th Grade Titles

Fantasy League by Mike Lupica: 12-year-old Charlie is a fantasy football guru. He may be just a bench warmer for his school's football team, but when it comes to knowing and loving the game, he's first-string. He even becomes a celebrity when his podcast gets noticed by a sports radio host. Soon Charlie befriends the elderly owner of the L.A. Bulldogs -- a fictional NFL team -- and convinces him to take a chance on an aging quarterback.

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi: Thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle is excited to return home from her school in England to her family in Rhode Island in the summer of 1832. But when the two families she was supposed to travel with mysteriously cancel their trips, Charlotte finds herself the lone passenger on a long sea voyage with a cruel captain and a mutinous crew. What begins as an eagerly anticipated ocean crossing turns into a harrowing journey, where Charlotte gains a villainous enemy . . . and is put on trial for murder!

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott: *Little Women* is the heartwarming story of the March family that has thrilled generations of readers. It is the story of four sisters--Jo, Meg, Amy and Beth-- and of the courage, humor and ingenuity they display to survive poverty and the absence of their father during the Civil War. This is a must-read for all young women.

Little Men by Louisa May Alcott: With two sons of her own, and twelve rescued orphan boys filling the informal school at Plumfield, Jo March, now Jo Bhaer, couldn't be happier. But despite the warm and affectionate help of the whole March family, boys have a habit of getting into scrapes, and there are plenty of troubles and adventures in store.

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Rising Eighth Grade Requirements

Choose one of the titles listed above that you have not read previously and complete the book cards. This activity will count as a quiz grade in your language arts class.

Book Card Requirements: These index cards need to be the large (5x8 inches) size. You may combine the following elements, but please write only on one side of the cards. All cards **must be in COMPLETE SENTENCES** and handwritten.

1. Title Card: Write the title, underline the title, put the author's name, and your name. Draw an illustration that represents the book.
2. Setting Card: Write at least four sentences to describe the settings of your book.
3. Plot Summary Card: Summarize the main events of the book. Write at least 12 complete sentences.
4. Character Card: List the major characters by name and write a one or two sentence description of each.
5. Conflict Card: List the main conflict of the book. (1-2 sentences)
6. Theme Card: Explain a theme of this book in 3-4 sentences.
7. Point of View: Tell the point of view from which this story is told. (1-2 sentences)
8. Book Review Card: In 5-7 sentences, write your overall opinion and impression of this book. Be sure to give detailed support for your opinion.

When students return to school in August, more activities and assessments will be assigned in class.

8th Grade PACE Summer Reading Assignment 2016

- IV. Complete the 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment.**
- V. In addition to the 8th Grade Assignment, the PACE student should read one additional book of his/her choice. The book should be at least 270 pages in length. (If it is not 270 pages in length, the student may choose to read 2 books of at least 150 pages each.) The book can be from any genre in the fiction category.**
- VI. While reading the book, the student should keep a spiral notebook containing the following information: (The notebook should be kept in the order below.)**
- G. Title, Author, Genre**
 - H. Setting – 1-2 paragraphs describing the setting**
 - I. Main Character – 1-2 paragraphs describing the character and his/her conflict(s) in the story.**
 - J. List of Characters as they appear in the story. Include the following:**
 - 3. Details of how the character is important to the story;**
 - 4. If the character has a conflict with the main character, include this in the details;**
 - 5. One quote from the character.**
 - K. Vocabulary – keep a list of at least 15 vocabulary words from the book. (These should either be words in which you are unfamiliar or words that you find interesting.)**
 - 6. Write the word;**
 - 7. Copy the sentence;**
 - 8. List the page number;**
 - 9. Write the dictionary definition;**
 - 10. Illustrate the word.**
 - L. Summary/Book Review – 3 paragraph essay. The first paragraph should be a summary, and the second and third paragraphs should be a book review. The summary should be typed, printed, and saved on a flash drive. The summary is a rough draft. The final draft will be due at a later date.**

If the student has chosen to read two books, he/she will do the assignment for each book. The same notebook should be used for both assignments.

If you have questions concerning the assignment, you may email me at scardin@strong-rock.com .