

ARENDELL PARROTT ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL
2018 SUMMER READING FOR RISING 8TH GRADERS



Reading should be a life-long pleasure. Summer reading is designed to reinforce this goal. It is important to develop and enrich comprehension skills by continuing to read for information and for pleasure. With this in mind, there are **three** parts of the 8th grade summer reading program. Rising 8th graders will be **required** to read one novel **and** will have the **option** to receive extra credit by reading additional novels from a select list for 8th graders.

Required Reading for Rising Eighth Graders

All rising eighth graders are **required** to participate in **part one** of the summer reading program. All students will read *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton. *The Outsiders* is a novel of fiction that is told in a way that seems real. The story is based on fact and is relevant to teenagers today. This is a book about peer pressure, rebellion, and identity. The message is valuable for teenagers, and the class discussion will make this a very memorable reading experience for everyone.

As your child reads the novel, he or she should also complete the study guide that is at the bottom of this packet. This study guide will be great preparation for the test on *The Outsiders* that will be given the first week of school. The time and effort that your child puts in answering the questions on the study guide will help with remembering the information for the test. The study guide will help students also prepare for discussion of the novel in class. On the first day of class, the study guide answers will be taken up, and a homework grade will be given for the assignment. Therefore, the answers to the study guides **should be written on notebook paper** and ready to turn in on time. **I will not take any answers that are not on notebook paper and written by your child.** **The study guide is attached to the end of this information.

There is a movie version of this novel. However, watching the movie will NOT help your child pass the test. If your child wants to watch the movie, I suggest that he or she wait until after the test. Since the movie is different from the book, it may cause confusion to watch the movie before the test.

Optional Reading Opportunities for Rising Eighth Graders

In addition to the required novel, students may elect to participate in **part two** of the summer reading program and may read other novels for enjoyment. By participating in this part of the summer reading program, students will receive extra credit for reading 2 of the novels from list one below. By reading these 2 additional novels **and** by having parents verify by signing the attached verification sheet, students will receive extra credit points on the summer reading test that is given the first week of school.

List One

Science Fiction/Fantasy

The Hunger Games - Collins
The Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy - Adams
How to Ditch Your Fairy - Justine Larbalestier
The Search for King Arthur - Day
Things not Seen - Clements
Things Hoped For - Clements
The Last Book in the Universe - Philbrick
Firestorm - Klass
Once Upon a Marigold - Jean Ferris (or the sequel Twice Upon a Marigold)

Historical and Multicultural Fiction

Monkey Town-Kidd
A Single Shard - Pack
Shadow Spinner - Feltcher
A Step from Heaven - An Na
Anila's Journey - Finn
Uprising - Margaret Peterson
Divided Loyalties - Hamley

Nonfiction

Charles and Emma Darwin's Leap of Faith - Heiligman
I Am Scout - Shields
The Forbidden School House - Jurmain
Knucklehead - Jon Scieszka
Swimming to Antarctica - Cox
George Washington and the Founding of a Nation - Marrin

Fiction

Miss Peregrines Home for Peculiar Children - Riggs
The Willoughbys - Lois Lowry
The Red Badge of Courage - Crane
Schooled - Korman
Swindle - Korman
A Brief Chapter in my Impossible Life - Reinhardt
Code Orange - Cooney
The Wednesday Wars - Schmidt
Diamonds in the Shadow - Cooney
Paper Towns - Green
This Full House - Virginia Wolff
Traitor's Gate - Avi



**Students are advised to select books that are on their reading level. In some cases, parental supervision may be necessary since the maturity level of each child is different.

Additional Reading Opportunities for Rising Eighth Graders

Students may also choose to participate in **part three** of the summer reading program. Part Three of this program allows students to read 5 novels from the Battle of the Books reading list. This option is for students who wish to receive extra credit and/or who wish to try out for the Battle of the Books team in the fall. Students who elect this option must also have parents verify by signing the verification sheet that is attached.

All students must participate in Part One of this program by reading *The Outsiders* **and** by completing the study guide for the novel. Reading any additional books is optional, but can help earn extra credit for the first test on *The Outsiders*. Reading 5 books from the Battle of the Books List gives the students extra credit points and allows them to try out for the Battle of the Books Team.

North Carolina School Library Media Association 2018-2019 Middle School Battle of the Books List

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

The Nine Pound Hammer by John Claude Bemis

Wild Things by Clay Carmichael

Etiquette and Espionage by Gail Carriger

Diamonds in the Shadow by Caroline B. Cooney

Ashes to Asheville by Sarah Dooley

Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper

Incarceron by Catherine Fisher

One for The Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Paper Things by Jennifer Richard Jacobson

Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson

Alexander Hamilton: The Making of America by Teri Kanefield

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer **Young Reader's Edition

Death Cloud by Andrew Lane

White Fang by Jack London

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

Cinder by Marissa Meyer

All of the Above by Shelley Pearsall

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys

Undefeated by Steve Sheinken

Everlost by Neal Shusterman

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Deathwatch by Robb White

Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

If a student wants extra credit for completing part two and part three of the summer reading program, he or she must return the section below.

Please save this form and have your child return it during the first week of school in August.

OPTION 1:

Extra Credit Reading (2 from the first list):

In addition to the required books, my son/daughter has read the following 2 selections from the reading extra credit:

1. _____

2. _____

Parent's signature

Student's signature

OPTION 2:

Extra Credit Battle of the Books Reading (5 books from Battle of the Books list):

In addition to the required books, my son/daughter list for has read 5 selections from the Battle of the Books list for extra credit and qualification to try out for the team in the fall:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Parent's signature

Student's signature

Study Guide for *The Outsiders*

Briefly on paper describe the characters below. Define on paper the meanings of these words.

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Bob | aghast |
| Cherry | contemptuously |
| Dallas (Dally) | delirious |
| Darry | elude |
| Greasers | gallant |
| Jerry Wood | gingerly |
| Johnny | incredulous |
| Marcia | indignant |
| Mr. Syme | nonchalantly |
| Ponyboy | quavered |
| Randy | rave |
| Socs | roguishly |
| Sodapop | ruefully |
| Steve | sagely |
| Tim Shepard | stupor |
| Two-Bit | subside |
| | unceasingly |
| | unfathomable |
| | wincing |
| | wistful |

Respond to these questions on your notebook paper.

- (1) How are the greasers different from the Socs?
- (2) Compare Ponyboy's brothers, Darry and Sodapop.
- (3) What is Two-Bit's noticeable characteristic?
- (4) Ponyboy and Dallas are shocked when Johnny orders Dallas to leave Cherry alone. What motivates Johnny to give the order? Why does Dallas obey him?
- (5) What qualities of Darry's and Ponyboy's cause them to be in conflict?
- (6) What details and earlier events make Bob's murder plausible?
- (7) What is Sodapop's position in Ponyboy's conflict with Darry?
- (8) Johnny and Ponyboy feel personally responsible for the safety of the children in the church. Why? Is this consistent with their characters?
- (9) What is the deeper meaning that Johnny grasps from Robert Frost's poem? Why does he try to convey that message to Ponyboy?
- (10) Explain the significance of the title of the novel.