

EIGHTH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

FOR ONE OF THE BOOKS LISTED ON THE EIGHTH GRADE SUMMER READING LIST, DO ANY **TWO** OF THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENTS.

1. For a main character from your book, select two people your character would admire as a hero or superhero. In at least one paragraph for each hero, describe the characteristics of the hero and why these characteristics would be important to your character. Also describe which characteristics your character would most want for himself/herself that the hero or superhero possesses and why you think so.
2. Select a character, think about his or her experiences, then contemplate which talk show host would most want your character on as a guest. What would the host want the character to talk about? Who else would be invited to address the issues on which the host will focus? Write two letters, one from the host and the other from the character, that discuss the issues that will be addressed. Include at least five questions the host would like to ask the character, and five ideas on which the character would like to focus. After the show, have them exchange letters mentioning their reactions and thoughts about how the interview went.
3. Create a word collage based on the book. Write the title of the book in the center of a sheet of computer paper. Then look through magazines for words, phrases, and sentences that communicate some important thoughts expressed in your book. As you look, think in terms of the theme, setting, events, as well as characters. Work to get fifty words or phrases so the whole sheet of paper will be covered. The visual impact of the collage should tell a potential reader the central focus of the book.
4. Write three poems of at least 10 lines each, in response to the book. One poem should express a happy, joyful, or hopeful moment in the character's life. A second should express a sad, depressing, or struggling moment in the character's life. The third should focus on an issue, event, person, or theme that was important to the character.
5. Select five current news stories that you think your character would be interested in. Then have your character blog a paragraph response to each of the news stories with his/her personal thoughts and opinions.
6. We learn a lot about people by what they keep in their closets, what they hang on their walls, what they select to decorate their rooms. Select a character and design a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or some other room that would be meaningful to the character. Draw a pictorial map of the room and explain why you designed the room as you did.
7. Compile a playlist of at least 10 songs your character would have on his/her ipod. List the songs, your character's favorite line from each, and the reason you believe your character loves each of the songs on the playlist.