

Summer Reading for Rising 8th Graders

Students are required to read four (4) books over the summer and be prepared to discuss them on the first day of school, August 24, 2010.

ENGLISH (two required books) - Choose **two** from the following list:

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

Under the Same Sky by Cynthia DeFelice

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne

Someone Named Eva by Joan M. Wolf

The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had by Kristin Levine

Heat by Mike Lupica

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare

Assignment: While reading these books, consider the **themes of prejudice, bias, and indifference.**

On one **4 x 6 note card** (front & back), record the following information:

- The main character(s)
- The setting (time and place)
- Five to ten (5-10) significant events that are related to the themes of prejudice, bias, and indifference.

You may refer to this note card when composing a brief essay in class. Be prepared to share your thoughts and discuss your book in terms of the themes mentioned above.

HISTORY – Choose **one** from the following list:

The Circuit by Francisco Jimenez

Crossing the Wire by Will Hobbs

La linea by Ann Jaramillo

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis

The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon

Bifocal by Deborah Ellis & Eric Walters

You do not need to turn in a written assignment. You will need to be able to participate in a discussion about your book. Be prepared to share your thoughts and discuss your book when you return to school.

SCIENCE – Choose **one** from the following list:

Jaguar by Roland Smith

Scat by Carl Hiaasen (*available in hardcover only*)

House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

Return to school prepared to discuss the book you read and participate in a group activity. Enjoy reading!