

Dear 6th & 7th Grade Parents,

The school year is finally coming to an end; therefore, your child is eagerly looking forward to his/her summer vacation and rightfully so. However, this does not mean there isn't time for continuous learning. It is vital for children to read over the summer months. Studies show that reading does tremendous things for the mind, influencing not only vocabulary and comprehension, but also verbal fluency and general knowledge.

All middle school students are being asked to read a minimum of one novel this summer and complete a project about their book. For resource center students, it can be any novel of their choice as long as it is at a "just right" level. Please follow the guidelines below based on one full page of text:

Too Difficult	**Just-Right**	Too Easy
-5+ unknown words -Bumpy reading -Doesn't understand the text -Hard to stay focused	-2-3 unknown words -Mostly smooth reading -Understands most parts -Enjoyable	-0-1 unknown words -Perfectly smooth reading

Project Requirements:

This project will be due on the first day of school. No exceptions! This project will be graded for the first marking period!

1. Over the summer, create the following project for the book you have read. ***ONLY*** if you do not have access to a computer, you may do this project on paper with hand-drawn, colored pictures or pictures cut out of magazines. Make sure your pages are neatly stapled together.
2. You will also be given a written assignment to complete on the first day of school to accompany the book you have read. Bring any notes that you have taken to use for this assignment.

PROJECT - GOOGLE PRESENTATION

Create a Google Presentation about your book, and share with your language arts teacher by the 8 am on the morning of the first day of school, September . Every slide you create must have at least one picture. Sound and animation is optional. The following slides are required.

- **Title slide** - name of book, author, your name, date
- **Setting slide** - time period, place where most of the story takes place, be descriptive - use 1-2 pieces of specific evidence from the book to illustrate/support your ideas.

- **Characters slide** – list and describe each main character's physical description along with the personality and relationship to other characters – use 1–2 pieces of specific evidence from the book to illustrate/support your ideas
- **Conflict slide** – please give a description of the struggle(s) that the main characters face in the story – use 1–2 pieces of specific evidence from the book to illustrate/support your ideas.
- **Resolution slide** – tell about how the main character(s) overcomes the struggles/conflict and how the other characters are affected by it – use 1–2 pieces of specific evidence from the book to illustrate/support your ideas.
- **Connections** – Explain what this novel reminds you of in a complete paragraph (5–8 sentences). For example, have you read another book, seen a movie, had an experience, etc. that makes you think about one or more parts of the story. Be sure to explain the part of the story in detail as well as the connection you make. Use 1–2 pieces of specific evidence from the book with to illustrate/support your ideas

Teacher schedules have not been finalized, so your child's language arts teacher has not yet been assigned. As the current middle school language arts teacher I am available to answer any questions you may have. I check my email daily over the summer, so if you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out. Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Heidi Truesdell

htruesdell@stanhopeschools.org