

Get ready for **SUMMER READING**



Stone Scholastic Magnet Academy Grades 6-8 Summer Reading

All incoming 6th-8th grade students at Stone Academy are required to participate in a summer reading program. Studies show that as a result of such programs, students have better retention of knowledge, better preparation for school in the fall, and increased literacy skills. In addition to the summer reading below, all 6-8th grade reading teachers strongly encourage 6-8th grade students to practice the **Word Within the Word List 1-20 stems** over the summer (available online).

*Students **MUST READ TWO EXTENDED TEXTS** during the summer. This includes one **fiction novel** and one **nonfiction option**. It is the students' and parents' choice as to what books are selected and read for summer reading, however, we ask that you keep in mind your lexile level when selecting a book to read. Parents feel free to select additional reading for your child.



***One Fiction Novel**

- The fiction novel can be chosen from either the classic literary novels (*list is below*) or a novel of your choice. If your fiction novel is not from the list, feel free to email this year's reading teacher for approval.

***Nonfiction Option**

- The nonfiction option can either be selected from the list below or found on your own. If you decide to find your nonfiction option on your own it must be an extended text (*minimum 50 pages in length*) and also feel free to email this year's reading teacher for approval.

***Summer Reading Contract**

- After completion of the summer reading parents and students **need to sign and turn in** the attached summer reading contract to receive full credit for their summer reading participation (***due on the first day of school***).

***Incoming 6th Grade Fiction and Nonfiction Assignments:**

- Students will also need to complete a fiction assignment based on their fiction text as well as a nonfiction assignment based on their nonfiction text (*worth 50 points each & due on the first day of school*).

Incoming 6th Grade Fiction Assignments Options

- **Assignment Option One:** Students will choose one book and complete a reading journal of 5 entries. Consider the following questions as you respond to your book choice: What is the main theme of the chapter or book? Is there any symbolism that is leading to the plot? What is the plot and how is it developed by the author? Do you see any foreshadowing and what is about to happen? Give an example of a dynamic character, and what changes have led you to believe they are dynamic? What is the main setting of the chapter or book, and what was the author's purpose for choosing such a setting? How does the author develop and contrast the point of view of different characters or narrators throughout a scene, chapter, or the novel? Compare and contrast an author's fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and the actual time, place, or people during that point in history. *Journal entries should be typed. Entries should be 1 page each, double-spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman, and should be numbered one through five. Textual evidence (examples from the story) should be supplied to support your views. Entries should be kept in a folder.

- Assignment Option Two: Create a powerpoint, prezi, or website that analyzes the fictional elements of the novel. The presentation should identify the antagonist and protagonist as well as their motivations, the setting, plot line, and theme. Be sure to include textual evidence (examples from the story) to support your analysis of each fictional element. Print and turn in your project on the first day of school.

Incoming 6th Nonfiction Assignments Options

- Assignment Option One: Create Diary Entries. If the subject of your biography or memoir had kept a diary, what do you think he or she would have written about? Put yourself in the person's shoes for this assignment. Choose three important events from the person's life and write a one-page diary entry about each.
- Assignment Option Two: After you finish your nonfiction book, you'll make up a test about it. Your test should include a few different sections, such as true/false, multiple choice, matching, and fill in the blank questions (*minimum 20 questions*).

***Incoming 7th & 8th Grade Fiction and Nonfiction Assignments:**

Carefully read and annotate your summer reading text choices in a notebook, or typed in a Word document, or in your own copy of the book (either format will be collected on the first day of school), taking care to follow these guidelines:

- Define unknown words.
- Consider such literary devices as setting, mood, symbol, tone, imagery, selection of detail, diction, syntax, archetype, figurative language, and point of view.
- Trace character development.
- Note themes.
- If you have your own copy of the book, do not simply underline a passage, but also make notes in the margins.

***Be prepared to write an in-class, open-book essay on your chosen texts, as well as turn in your annotations for a grade on the first day of class.**

***CLASSIC LITERARY NOVEL OPTIONS LIST** for our incoming 6th, 7th and 8th Grade:

A Single Shard Linda Sue Park
A Walk to Remember Nicholas Sparks
A Wrinkle in Time Madeleine L'Engle
Call of the Wild Jack London
The Dark is Rising Susan Cooper
Dragonwings Laurence Yep
Ender's Game Orson Scott Card
Hope Was Here Joan Bauer
Inherit the Wind Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee
Johnny Tremain Esther Forbes
Man's Search for Meaning Viktor E. Frankl
Little Women Louisa May Alcott
The Magician's Nephew C.S. Lewis
Milkweed Jerry Spinelli
The Giver Lois Lowry
The Miracle Worker William Gibson
The Pearl John Steinbeck
The Revealers Doug Wilhelm
Silas Marner George Elliot
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry Mildred Taylor
Surviving the Applewhites Stephanie S. Tolan
Tangerine Edward Bloor
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle Avi
Turnabout Margaret Peterson Haddix

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea Jules Verne
The Westing Game Ellen Raskin
The Phantom Tollbooth Norton Juster
The Secret Garden Frances Hodgson Burnett
Island of the Blue Dolphins Scott O'Dell
Number the Stars Lois Lowry
Stuart Little E.B. White
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe C.S. Lewis
The Book Thief Markus Zusak

***CLASSIC LITERARY NOVELS LIST for the advanced reader:**

Animal Farm George Orwell
Nothing but the Truth Avi
Mere Christianity C.S. Lewis
Around the World in Eighty Days Jules Verne

10 Grade World Literature Novels:

Julius Caesar Shakespeare
The Count of Monte Cristo Daniel Defoe
Lord of the Flies William Golding

Novels for Book Review:

This Present Darkness Frank Peretti
Wuthering Heights Emily Bronte
The Divine Comedy Dante
Out of Africa Isak Dinesen
Tale of Two Cities Charles Dickens
The Odyssey Homer
Antigone Sophocles
Emma Jane Austen

British Literature Novels:

1984 George Orwell
Frankenstein Mary Shelley
Jane Eyre Charlotte Bronte
Pride and Prejudice Jane Austin
Persuasion Jane Austin
The Importance of Being Ernest Oscar Wilde
Hamlet Shakespeare
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead Shakespeare
Hard Times Charles Dickens

American Literature:

The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Scarlet Letter Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Crucible Arthur Miller
Short stories by Edgar Allen Poe and Flannery O'Connor
The Awakening Kate Chopin
Ethan Frome Edith Wharton
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest Ken Kesey
Catcher in the Rye J.D. Salinger
Color Purple Alice Walker
Farewell to Arms Ernest Hemingway
Joy Luck Club Amy Tan
Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck

Sound and Fury William Faulkner

***NONFICTION OPTIONS LIST for our incoming 6th, 7th and 8th Grade:**

Witches: The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem Rosalyn Shanzer

Chasing Lincoln's Killer James L. Swanson

Hope Unseen: The Story of the U.S. Army's First Blind Active-Duty Officer Scotty Smiley and Doug Crandall

We Are Americans: Undocumented Students Pursuing the American Dream William Pérez

Never a City So Real: A Walk in Chicago Alex Kotlowitz

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings Maya Angelou

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream Tanya Lee Stone

Blizzard: The Storm That Changed America Jim Murphy

Cake Wrecks: When Professional Cakes Go Hilariously Wrong Jen Yates

The Dark Game: True Spy Stories Paul B. Janeczko

The Duel: The Parallel Lives of Alexander Hamilton & Aaron Burr Judith St. George

Game Day: Meet the People Who Make it Happen Kevin Sylvester

The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: A Doll's History and Her Impact On Us Tanya Lee Stone

Grayson Lynne Cox

The Greatest: Muhammad Ali Walter Dean Myers

The Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honey Bee Catastrophe Loree Griffin Burns

Houdini: The Handcuff King Jason Lutes & Nick Bertozzi

John Lennon: All I Want is the Truth: A Photographic Biography Elizabeth Partridge

Lewis & Clark Nick Bertozzi

Martha Graham, A Dancer's Life Russell Freedman

Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex Nathaniel Philbrick

Smile Raina Telgemeier

Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board Bethany Hamilton

They Called Themselves the K.K.K.: The Birth of an American Terrorist Group Susan Campbell Bartoletti

Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners From 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert Marc Aronson

Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting Jim Murphy

See the required Summer Reading Contract below (required and will be collected on the first day of school):

Required Summer Reading Contract

I, _____ (print student first and last name) read the following books to **complete the summer reading requirements for Stone Scholastic Academy:**

Book 1 (fiction option) Title:

Author: _____

Date of Completion: _____

Book 2 (nonfiction option) Title:

Author: _____

Date of Completion _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

***Completed assignments are due the first day of the first week of school for credit toward the first quarter grade. If students are enrolled after July 1st, they will only have to read ONE book.**

We look forward to working with you next year!