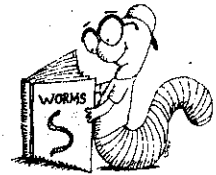


# 2010 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Stephen M. White Middle School

*The Summer Reading Program is designed to stimulate the imagination and guide students toward literature that will introduce them to the highly acclaimed Reading Counts! reading comprehension program that we successfully use at S.M. White Middle School. The listed books, recommended by our school librarian and literacy coach, were selected for their appeal to a wide-range of readers. Please choose a novel from the provided grade-level list and complete one of the three assignments listed below. Your teacher will collect your assignment the first week of school in September.*

## Novel choices



### Students entering sixth grade:

- ❖ *Al Capone Does My Shirts* Choldenko, Jennifer
- ❖ *Chasing Vermeer* Balliett, Blue
- ❖ *Princess Academy* Hale, Shannon
- ❖ *Rules* Lord, Cynthia
- ❖ *Honus & Me: A Baseball Card Adventure* Gutman, Dan
- ❖ *Riding Freedom* Ryan, Pam Munoz
- ❖ *The 13<sup>th</sup> Floor: A Ghost Story* Fleischman, Sid
- ❖ *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963: A Novel* Curtis, Christopher Paul
- ❖ *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* Kelly, Jacqueline
- ❖ *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* Grace Lin
- ❖ *The Wednesday Wars* Schmidt, Gary
- ❖ *The Higher Power of Lucky* Patron, Susan
- ❖ *Zorgamazoo* Weston, Robert Paul
- ❖ *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* Philbrick, Rodman
- ❖ *The Good Dog* Avi
- ❖ *Ella Enchanted* Levine, Gail Carson
- ❖ *The School Story* Clements, Andrew
- ❖ *12 Again* Corbett, Sue
- ❖ *Christopher Mouse: The Tale of a Small Traveler* Wise, William
- ❖ *Each Little Bird that Sings* Wiles, Deborah
- ❖ *The Schwa Was Here* Shusterman, Neal
- ❖ *Ruby Holler* Creech, Ruby

*\*Parents, please review all books to make sure they are appropriate for your child..*

### Assignment Choices:

- ❖ Complete 3 postcards
- ❖ Complete five journal entries
- ❖ Complete a book map

## Reading Response Journal

A reading response journal is a notebook in which to communicate your insights, thoughts, and feelings about your reading. Think of your five journals as a window for your teacher to look through to see what you are thinking.

### **Response Suggestions:**

- Date each entry
  - Include the title of the book and the author in each entry.
  - Write, on average, a half page, although the length may vary.
  - Proofread your responses carefully for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.
  - Each entry should address a different aspect of the literature. (See Response Topics)
  - All entries must be a response to at least one quote from the novel.
- NOTE: A quote is not just dialogue; it is any written portion of the text.
- Include the page number with the quote

### **Possible Response Topics:**

- Make predictions about what will happen next.
- Show a personal reaction to the story.
- Describe the main character's personality in detail.
- Comment on how a character has changed.
- Relate the text to your personal life.
- Compare the text to another text or the real world.
- Comment on the mood of the story or the author's use of language.
- State an opinion about the actions of the characters.
- Describe how a passage in the text created an image in your mind.
- Discuss any figurative language in the text (simile, metaphor, personification, symbolism, etc.)



### **Reading Response Journal Example** (Text from page 58 in *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson)

Quote	Response Journal
<p><i>"It was Silver's voice, and, before I had heard a dozen words, I would not have shown myself for all the world, but lay there, trembling and listening, in the extreme fear and curiosity for from these dozen words I understood that the lives of all honest men aboard depended upon me alone." (58)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">July 12, 2007</p> <p>As I read this part of <i>Treasure Island</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson, I could not help but think about two literary elements: the author's use of foreshadowing and mood. The use of foreshadowing is evident in the part that says, "The lives of all the honest men aboard depended on me." This hint tells me that Jim has just discovered what I have thought all along; there is going to be a mutiny by the pirates. Furthermore, the passage lets me infer that Jim might end up being the hero in the novel, even though he is just a young boy and all the other characters are grown men.</p> <p>Stevenson has an incredible gift of creating a suspenseful and scary mood as is evident in this part of the story. The words "trembling" and "extreme fear" let me enter the mind and body of Jim Hawkins and really experience his intense fear and panic. I do not think the mood would have been as intense if this story were not written in the first person point of view.</p> <p>Based on this part of <i>Treasure Island</i>, I predict that in the next chapter a chaotic mutiny will begin and Jim will arise as a true hero. Time to read on!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Till next time, Stu .D Ent</p>

## Postcards

Postcards are used to send messages through the mail. Write three post cards from the main character (first person point of view) to someone else in the story describing three different critical events in the novel. Include how the character feels about the event. The front of the postcard should be a colored illustration of the setting where the event occurred. Sign the postcard from the main character.

**Postcard Example: (From *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan)**

**Front:**

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**Back:**

Dear Abuelita,

You would not believe the huge dust storm we had last week. We took cover in the house and put rags under the doors to keep the dust out. We must not have done a great job as Mama has been sick ever since the storm. She coughs all the time and does not seem to be getting any better. I am really worried about her. I so wish you were here to help us all. Please say some prayers for Mama.

Since Mama has been in the hospital, I have taken over more responsibility. Miguel helped me find a job in the fields cutting potato eyes. It is not fun, but it is my responsibility to help the family. I miss taking care of Lupe and Pepe, but times are changing! I'll write next week. I love you.

Love,  
Esperanza

FICTION

Book Map

FORESHADOWING (author's hint of what's to come)

THEME (author's message)

EXPLAIN ONE

CONFLICT/PROBLEM MAIN CHARACTERS' FACES

Title:
Author:

SETTING (when/where)

PLACE

TIME

POINT OF VIEW (narrator?)

EXAMPLES OF (Figurative language) GOOD WRITING (Include page #)

CLIMAX (HIGH POINT)
PERSONAL OPINION (ALSO WHY)