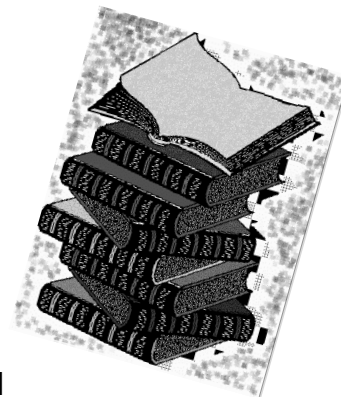


LANGUAGE ARTS -- GRADE 8
SUMMER READING REQUIREMENTS – 2011



Dear Eighth Grade Students and Parents:

This summer each entering eighth grade student must read Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli. In this regard, please be aware of the following as part of this requirement:

- The students must compose three (3) questions and answers for each of six chapter groupings, making a total of twelve (12) questions **with answers**, to be collected upon their return.
- These questions should relate to important ideas/events in the chapters.
- At least one question in each set of three should require more than one **sentence** to answer. The other two can be **short answer sentences**, but **not** just “yes” or “no.”
- Students must number the questions 1, 2, 3 per chapter grouping. See the back for sample questions for “Porcupine Necktie”-1. You **do not** have to write other questions for these first two chapters.
- The chapter groupings are as follows: “2-7; 8-13; 14-19; 20-26; 27-31; 32 – “More than Stars.”
- **The questions and answers must be typed.**
- Shortly after school begins in the fall, the language arts classes will discuss this book and then take a test on it.
- Keep the discussion and test in mind when exploring the book.
- The department recommends that the students purchase a copy to use when reading and for discussing the book in the fall.

Each student is also required to read **three** (3) additional books of **150 pages or more**. He/She may select ones from the Trinity School Librarian lists or other age appropriate books. Your public library is always a good resource. The list of these books must be submitted to the student's language arts teacher during the first week of school. Follow the recording guidelines on the recording sheet.

We look forward to having a lively dialogue in the fall!!

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Moulding, Mrs. Hutton

Chapters “Porcupine Necktie” - 1 Sample Questions

Q.1. What feeling do you get from the lines, “It did not occur to me that we were being watched. We were all being watched”?

A. Those last two lines give a creepy feeling. Someone knew Leo’s hobby well, but nobody in his family admitted to the gift, so the reader is left to wonder who would go to the trouble to give a stranger a hobby tie.

Q. 2. What contrasting aspects does the porcupine necktie have?

A. Although the surface of the necktie is silky and smooth, it has a prickly porcupine painted on it. The depiction is so real that Leo says he half expects “to be stuck by one of the quills.”

Q. 3. Why would Stargirl make a good candidate for the “Hot Seat”?

A. Most other guests had been fairly uninteresting, like athletes or academics. This Stargirl was totally different, with her ukulele she used to serenade others, long flowing dress, and unusual name.

For Eighth Grade

When you are visiting the public library this summer be sure to include some of the following books (or other books by the same authors). The following list of fiction books includes realistic fiction, historical fiction, humorous fiction, mystery, science fiction, and fantasy. The required summer reading book has been bolded.

Author	Contemporary Fiction Title
Robert Cormier	<u>I Am the Cheese</u> and <u>Fade</u>
Jean Craighead George	(any)
Rob White	<u>Deathwatch</u>
Barbara Williams	<u>Beheaded Survived</u>
Walter Dean Myers	<u>Motown</u> and <u>Didi</u>
Jerry Spinelli	<u>Stargirl (Required Book)</u>

Author	Historical Fiction Title
Patricia Clapp	<u>The Tamarack Tree</u>
Susan Cooper	<u>Dawn of Fear</u>
Rudolph Frank	<u>No Hero for the Kaiser</u>
Bette Greene	<u>The Summer of My German Soldier</u>
Virginia Hamilton	<u>The House of Dies Drear</u>
Walter Dean Myers	<u>Fallen Angels</u>
Scott O'Dell	<u>My Name is not Angelica</u>
Leonie Osowski	<u>Star Without a Sky</u>
Elizabeth George Speare	<u>The Calico Captive</u>
Jeff Shaara	<u>Killer Angels</u>
Jill Paton Walsh	<u>A Parcel of Patterns</u>
Markus Zusak	<u>The Book Thief</u>

Author	Classic Fiction Title
Pierre Boulle	<u>The Bridge Over the River Kwai</u>
Ray Bradbury	<u>Fahrenheit 451</u>
Charlotte Bronte	<u>Jane Eyre</u>
John Buchan	<u>The Thirty-Nine Steps</u>
Stephen Crane	<u>The Red Badge of Courage</u>
Clarence Day	<u>Life With Father</u>
Charles Dickens	<u>Great Expectations</u>
Daphne Du Maurier	<u>Rebecca</u> (Required for some high schools) and <u>Jamaica Inn</u>
William Golding	<u>Lord of the Flies</u>
Lorraine Hansberry	<u>A Raisin in the Sun</u>
Bret Harte	(short stories)
John Hersey	<u>Hiroshima</u>
Rudyard Kipling	<u>Captains Courageous</u>
John Knowles	<u>A Separate Peace</u>
Harper Lee	<u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u> (Required by some high schools)
Baroness Emma Orczy	<u>The Scarlet Pimpernel</u>
Erich Remarque	<u>All Quiet On the Western Front</u>

John Steinbeck
Antoine de Saint-Exupery
Owen Wister

The Red Pony
The Little Prince
The Virginian

Nonfiction

Author

Title

Brent Ashabranner

Always to Remember: The Story of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial

Rhoda Blumberg

The Incredible Journey of Lewis and Clark

Eve Curie

Madame Curie: A Biography

Russell Freedman

Lincoln: A Photobiography

Jean Fritz

The Great Little Madison

Eloise Greenfield

Paul Robeson

Virginia Hamilton

Anthony Burns

Milton Meltzer

Voices From the Civil War

Farley Mowat

Two Against the North and Owls in the Family

Judith St. George

Panama Canal: Gateway to the World

Paul Yee

Tales From the Golden Mountain: Stories of the Chinese In

the New

World

Recommended Social Studies Books

Author

Title

Pam Conrad

Prairie Song (fiction)

Anne Frank

Diary of a Young Girl

Russell Freedman

Indian Chiefs

The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane

Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery

Walter Lord

A Night to Remember (the Titanic)

Walter Dean Myers

Now is Your Time: The African American Struggle for Freedom

Michael Schaara

The Killer Angels (fiction)

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

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Parent Signature
