

Watertown Middle School

Summer Reading Guide 2010

For students entering Grade 7

“One of my greatest sources of pleasure is reading. I knew at a very young age that reading for me was the ultimate source of freedom. With knowledge you have the potential to reach great heights in every phase of life – from childhood through adulthood.” -- Oprah Winfrey.

We hope you do a ton of reading this summer! You need to read three books for your summer reading assignment and complete a response for each. These will count for credit in your humanities classes.

1) All School Book – Peak – Complete the assignment you received from your language arts teachers.

2 and 3) Two free choice Fiction books. You will need to read two other grade-level appropriate fiction books of your choosing and complete a book response for each. Use the following format: In the top right hand corner, write your name. Underneath, write the date. On the third line, write “Summer Reading”. Then complete sections 1-5 as described below. Write in paragraphs and separate each section with a space and a subhead. When you are done writing, carefully review and correct any errors in conventions (capitalization, spelling, etc.)

Section 1: Author, title (remember, book titles are underlined), number of pages and star rating. Give this book a star rating between 1- 5. Five is excellent and one is poor. Draw five stars and shade or color in your star rating, leaving open the rest of the stars if it is not a five. ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Section 2: Summary of the book. This should be one paragraph, 5-10 sentences. It is a very brief summary. Don't tell the whole story and don't spoil any surprises. **Use your own words!**

Section 3: Answer this question: Which of the main characters would you most like to have as a friend? Why? *Give specific examples from the story.* If you wouldn't be friends with any of them, explain why as well.

Section 4: Your personal reaction to the book. (This is the most important section of your review, so put effort into this section!) Did you like it? Why, or why not? *Give examples* to explain why you did or did not enjoy the book.

Section 5: Difficulty Rating. Give your book a difficulty rating from below and write a brief explanation.

Too easy

Just Right

Challenging in a good way

Too challenging

You will be graded on two traits of writing. Ideas: did you use specific details to support your ideas? Was your writing thorough? Did it make sense? Conventions: Did you carefully check to make sure your writing has no errors in punctuation, spelling, capitalization and grammar? See back for example.

These assignments count significantly toward your first term grade. Make sure you get your reading and assignments done over the summer!