

Summer 2021 Reading Assignment for Middle School

(Rising 6th, 7th, & 8th)

Step 1: Read ANY TWO BOOKS from the CCS Middle School Reading List
The books you select must be ones you have not previously read.

Step 2: For ONE of the books you read, complete this writing assignment:

1. (Fiction): Read the story with special attention paid to the main character. How does this character change during the story? What events or characters cause this change? What lessons does the character learn during the book? Write a 2-page report in which you address these topics. Type or carefully hand-write your report.
2. (Nonfiction): Consider the topic being addressed in the book. Answer these questions:
 - a. Who or what is this book about?
 - b. What happened?
 - c. Where do the events in the book take place?
 - d. When did these events take place?
 - e. Why are the events/people described in this book important? What did they accomplish that is noteworthy?

Step 3: Please take care to write/type neatly and edit before you consider your report to be finished.

Step 4: Your completed report is due THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL. You will receive a grade based on the following:

1. Neat/edited handwriting, typed copy
2. Covers all areas listed above for the genre.
3. Submitted during the first week of school
4. All directions followed

Step 5: Read your SECOND book *carefully*. I will ask you to complete a writing activity on your second book when we begin the school year.

CCS Middle School Summer Reading List

<i>Freak the Mighty</i> by Rodman Philbrick	Realistic/Classic
<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> by Scott O'dell	Realistic/Classic
<i>Gentle Ben</i> by Walt Morey	Realistic/Classic
<i>Black Beauty</i> by Anna Sewell	Realistic/Classic
<i>The Swiss Family Robinson</i> by Johann Wyss	Realistic/Classic
<i>The Secret Garden</i> Frances Hodgson Burnett	Realistic/Classic
<i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> by Jules Verne	Realistic/Classic
<i>Hoot</i> by Carl Hiaasen	Realistic
<i>The False Prince</i> by Jennifer Nielsen	Realistic
<i>Mockingbird</i> by Kathryn Erskine	Realistic
<i>Leap of Faith</i> by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	Realistic
<i>Ordinary Miracles</i> by Stephanie Tolan	Realistic
<i>Under the Egg</i> by Laura Marx Fitzgerald	Realistic
<i>Shadow</i> by Michael Morpurgo	Realistic
<i>Counting by 7s</i> by Holly Sloan	Realistic
<i>Half a Chance</i> by Cynthia Lord	Realistic
<i>A.K.A. Genius</i> by Marilee Haynes	Realistic
<i>The Not-So-Star-Spangled Life of Sunita Sen</i> by Mitali Perkins	Realistic

<i>House Arrest</i> by K.A. Holt	Realistic
<i>Golden Boy</i> by Tara Sullivan	Realistic
<i>Fish in a Tree</i> by Lynda Mullaly Hunt	Realistic
<i>Booked</i> by Kwame Alexander	Realistic
<i>Interrupted</i> by Rachel Coker	Realistic
<i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli	Realistic
<i>Zero Tolerance</i> by Claudia Mills	Realistic
<i>Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park	Realistic
<i>Railway Children</i> by E. Nesbit	Historical/Classic
<i>Old Yeller</i> by Fred Gipson	Historical/Classic
<i>Across Five Aprils</i> by Irene Hunt	Historical/Classic
<i>Johnny Tremain</i> by Esther Forbes	Historical/Classic
<i>The War That Saved My Life</i> by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	Historical
<i>Dead End in Norvelt</i> by Jack Gantos	Historical
<i>Twerp</i> by Mark Goldblatt	Historical
<i>Prisoner B-3087</i> by Alan Gratz	Historical
<i>The Seventh Most Important Thing</i> by Shelley Pearsall	Historical
<i>Light in the Forest</i> by Conrad Richter	Historical
<i>Seeing Red</i> by Kathryn Erskine	Historical

<i>Milkweed</i> by Jerry Spinelli	Historical
<i>The Watsons Go to Birmingham--1963</i> by Christopher Paul Curtis	Historical
<i>Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two</i> by Joseph Bruchac	Historical
<i>Fuzzy Mud</i> by Louis Sachar	Mystery
<i>A School for Unusual Girls</i> by Kathleen Baldwin	Mystery
<i>Eragon</i> by Christopher Paolini	Fantasy
<i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i> by Jules Verne	Sci-Fi/Classic
<i>The Boy on the Wooden Box</i> by Leon Leyson	Non Fiction/Historical
<i>The Boys Who Challenged Hitler</i> by Phillip Hoose	Non Fiction/Historical
<i>12 Years a Slave</i> by Solomon Northup	Non Fiction/Historical
<i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</i> by James L. Swanson	Non Fiction/Historical
<i>Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal-- the World's Most Dangerous Weapon</i> by Steve Sheinkin	Non Fiction/Historical
<i>The President has been Shot!: The Assassination of John F. Kennedy</i> by James L. Swanson	Non Fiction/Historical
<i>Refugee</i> by Alan Gratz	Historical

<i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i> by Kelly Barnhill	Fantasy
<i>Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</i> by Dusti Bowling	Realistic

Books in a SERIES- any book in the series may be read

<i>The Hobbit or Lord of the Rings Trilogy</i> Series by Tolkien	Classic/ Fantasy
<i>The Chronicles of Narnia</i> by C.S.Lewis	Classic/ Fantasy
<i>Immortal Nicholas Flamel Series</i> by Michael Scott	Fantasy
<i>Wormling Series</i> by Jerry Jenkins	Fantasy
<i>The Mysterious Benedict Society Series</i> by Trenton Lee Stewart	Suspense
<i>Crispin Series</i> by Avi	Historical
<i>The Penderwicks Series</i> by Jeanne Birdsall	Realistic
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by L.M. Montgomery	Classic/ Realistic

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE READING LIST!

All Summer Long

by Hope Larson
Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2018,
ISBN: 9780374304850
Bina's expectations for summer
are upended, leading to new
experiences and self-discovery.

Amal Unbound

by Aisha Saeed
Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018,
ISBN: 9780399544682
A powerful story about a
young Pakistani girl forced into
indentured servitude.

Ashes to Asheville

by Sarah Dooley
Putnam, 2017, ISBN:
9780399165047
Fella and her sister, Zany, take
their deceased mother's ashes
and run away to Asheville—the
last place they were happy as
a family—where they hope to
scatter them as per her wishes.

Charlie Hernández and the League of Shadows

by Ryan Calejo
Aladdin, 2018, ISBN:
9781534426580
Charlie is drawn into an ancient
battle between good and evil
when figures from the Latino
myths his abuela told him
suddenly appear in the real
world—and his body begins to
grow horns and feathers!

Countdown: 2979 Days to the Moon

by Suzanne Slade, illustrated
by Thomas Gonzalez
Peachtree, 2018, ISBN:
9781682630136
Follow the U.S. space program's
triumphs and setbacks, from
President Kennedy's challenge to
the nation in 1963 to its fulfillment
with the first man on the moon.

Dove Arising

by Karen Bao
Viking, 2015, ISBN:
9780451469014
Quiet, introverted Phaet Theta
keeps to herself, but when her
mother is arrested, she must
find her courage and enlist in the
Moon's militia to free her mom
and save her siblings. First in a
Series.

Ghost

by Jason Reynolds
Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books,
2016, ISBN: 9781481450157
Ghost is trying to outrun his
tumultuous past while winning
races on his new track team; will
he learn what it takes to succeed
and overcome his troubles? First
in a series.

Harbor Me

by Jacqueline Woodson
Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018,
ISBN: 9780399252525
A group of middle-school students come together under the direction of an inspiring teacher to share stories and appreciate their differences.

It All Comes Down to This

by Karen English
Clarion, 2017, ISBN:
9780544839571
In Los Angeles during the summer of 1965, Sophie, an upper middle-class African American girl, learns some hard truths about her family, about friendship, and about racism.

Love, Ish

by Karen Rivers
Algonquin Young Readers, 2017,
ISBN: 9781616205706
Mischa "Ish" Love's dreams of escaping life in her small town and living on Mars one day are threatened by a sudden illness.

Marcus Vega Doesn't

Speak Spanish

by Pablo Cartaya
Viking, 2018, ISBN:
9781101997260
Marcus just wants to help his single mom get by and protect his brother from bullies, but he creates more problems than he solves. His mother decides a trip to visit family in Puerto Rico is just the thing they need.

Merci Suárez Changes

Gears

by Meg Medina
Candlewick Press, 2018, ISBN:
9780763690496
Sixth-grader Merci faces challenges as a scholarship student at her fancy private school, while at home, her beloved grandfather has begun to act strangely. Can Merci navigate all these changes?

The Night Diary

by Veera Hiranandani
Kokila, 2018, ISBN:
9780735228511
A gripping story of one family's flight from Pakistan during the partition of India in 1947, as told by twelve-year-old Nisha to her Diary.

Peasprout Chen, Future

Legend of Skate and Sword

by Henry Lien
Henry Holt, 2018, ISBN:
9781250165695
Peasprout and her brother, Cricket, are accepted into Pearl Famous Academy of Skate and Sword to study Wu Liu, martial arts figure skating. High-stakes competition, political intrigue, and more await them.

Piecing Me Together

by Renée Watson
Bloomsbury, 2017, ISBN:
9781681191058
Jade is an "at-risk" student from a poor neighborhood in Portland,

Oregon, who struggles to find her voice amid conflicting pressures. Allusions to collage art and the themes of making yourself out of the pieces of your life elevate this coming-of-age story.

The Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in This Game Called Life

by Kwame Alexander,
photographs by Thai Neave
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017,
ISBN: 9780544570979

Mixing poetry, photography, and inspiring stories from athletes and other role models, this book shares life lessons and advice for overcoming obstacles.

Putting Peace First: 7 Commitments to Change the World

by Eric Dawson
Viking, 2018, ISBN:
9781101997338

Learn how to make a difference in the world NOW with this step-by-step guide to putting your visions into practice.

Sci-Fu

by Yehudi Mercado
Oni Press, 2018, ISBN:
9781620104729

It's 1980s Brooklyn, and Wax just scratched the perfect beat, attracting the attention of an evil alien robot who transports his family, best friend, and crush to the planet Discopia, where Wax must master the art of Sci-Fu if he wants to fight the bad guys,

save the universe, and get back to Earth.

See You in the Cosmos

by Jack Cheng
Dial Books, 2017, ISBN:
9780399186370

Alex Petroski is on a mission to send a rocket into space with a recording on his iPod of what it's like to be human, just like his hero Carl Sagan. His journey takes him farther than he ever could have imagined.

Space Battle Lunchtime, Vol. 1: Lights, Camera, Snacktion

by Natalie Riess
Oni Press, 2016, ISBN:
9781620103135

The competition is fierce on the universe's most popular reality TV cooking show, Space Battle Lunchtime! Does Earth baker Peony have what it takes to win? The Stars Beneath Our Feet

by David Barclay Moore
Knopf Books, 2017, ISBN:
9781524701246

A boy tries to find himself and a community in his Harlem neighborhood in the wake of his brother's death.

Us, in Progress: Short Stories about Young Latinos

by Lulu Delacre
HarperCollins, 2017, ISBN:
9780062392145

A collection of short stories

growing up in the United States.

The Witch Boy

by Molly Knox Ostertag

Graphix, 2017, ISBN:

9781338089523

In Aster's family, boys are shapeshifters and girls are witches—but Aster has always been more interested in witchcraft than shapeshifting. As Aster tries to remain true to himself, secrets about his family's past are unearthed. First in a series.

Recommended Reading from an esteemed rising 8th grader at CCS:

1. For a challenge: Anything from Jane Austen or Charlotte Bronte (*Pride & Prejudice*, *Jane Eyre*, *Emma*, etc)
2. *Halfings* series by Heather Burch
3. *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park
4. *Divergent* series by Veronica Roth
5. *Hunger Games* series by Suzanne Collins
6. *The School for Unusual Girls* (*Stranje House* series) by Kathleen Baldwin
7. *Susanna's Midnight Ride* by Libby Carty McNamee
8. *Swipe* series by Evan Angler