

# Summer Reading Extravaganza 2017-2018 for students going from 6<sup>th</sup> into 7<sup>th</sup> grade

## 1. CHOOSE A BOOK AND READ IT.

- *I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in The Holocaust* Livia Bitton-Jackson (memoir)

The author, born Elli Friedmann, was thirteen years old when the Nazis invaded Hungary and turned her world upside down. The Nazis forced her family into a Jewish ghetto and then sent them to Auschwitz.

- *Football Genius* Tim Green (realistic fiction)

Troy, a sixth-grader with an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur, attempts to use his ability to help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, but he must first prove himself to the coach and players.

- *Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting* Jim Murphy (historical nonfiction)

This book tells the true story of the spontaneous Christmas truce on the battlefields of World War I, when soldiers on both sides came out of the trenches and exchanged gifts and songs instead of gunfire.

- *Brian's Winter* Gary Paulsen (realistic fiction)

*Brian's Winter* begins where *Hatchet* might have ended: Brian is not rescued, but must build on his survival skills to deal with a deadly northern winter.

- *Uprising* Margaret Peterson Haddix (historical fiction)

The fire at the Triangle Waist Company—one of the worst disasters since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution—brought attention to the labor movement in America. Told from alternating points of view, this novel draws upon the experiences of three very different young women, and looks at issues including labor rights, working conditions, and women's suffrage.

- *Jackie's Nine: Jackie Robinson's Values to Live By* Sharon Robinson (literary nonfiction)

Jackie's daughter, Sharon, acts as a personal tour guide through the nine heartfelt, hard-won values that helped her father achieve his goals. Jackie Robinson's values are brought to life through the powerful words of other heroes and pioneers, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Oprah Winfrey, and Christopher Reeve.

- *Flipped* Wendelin Van Draanen (realistic fiction)

The first time she saw him, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. That was the second grade, but in the eighth grade everything gets turned upside down: just as Bryce is thinking that there's maybe more to Juli than meets the eye, she's thinking that he's not quite all he seemed.

## 2. COMPLETE AN ACTIVITY.

- Choose one of the assignments below to show your understanding of the book you have chosen from the approved Summer Reading list. You should choose an assignment that matches your interests, talents, and abilities.
  - You may work alone, or you may choose to work with one other member of your English class.
  - Be sure to read the directions for the assignment carefully as each has specific requirements which must be met.
  - The activity will be completed in class. You will be given two class days to work, so it is suggested you decide beforehand which activity you wish to complete.
  - A due date will be announced in class.
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- **Book Cover** -- You are the artist for the cover of the book you read, and your assignment is to design a brand new cover. Include at least 6 symbols/images to represent the plot, setting, characters, conflict, theme, and most important event in the book. Include 1 significant quotation from the text. Be sure to include the title and the author.
  - **Comic Strip** -- Create a comic strip depicting 1 conflict within the story. The cartoon must have at least 6 boxes with a dialogue cloud in each box. Stick figures are not acceptable.
  - **“Fakebook” Page**-- Create a page for the main character. Include the 3 groups the character would join, provide 3 status updates, and identify 5 people the character would choose as friends. Be sure details from the story are included.
  - **Word Collage** -- Write the title of the book in the center of the poster board. Look through magazines for words, phrases, and sentences that illustrate or tell something about the book. Think in terms of theme, setting, plot line, as well as characters. Work to get 50 such words, phrases, and sentences so the whole poster board will be covered. The visual impact of the collage should tell a potential reader much about the book.
  - **Tangible or Intangible** -- Select a character and figure out what 3 items you believe the character most needs or wants. Draw or cut out pictures to represent these “gifts,” and then write to your character an explanation of why you picked these items out for him/her.

Teachers will supply poster board, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, and construction paper. If there are other materials you wish to use, you will need to bring these items to school with you on the dates designated for working on the project.

**NOTE:** If you choose not to read one of the summer reading books, you will be given an alternate assignment which will need to be completed by the due date.