

# Mt. Juliet Christian Academy

## Suggested Summer Reading 2009

Summer reading is designed to be a reinforcement and extension of the work that can be done during the year in the English classroom. Each secondary English class has required reading outside of the literature text during the school year. However, we have found that the more a person reads, the better prepared they are for higher education in addition to their other academic classes. All learning is impacted by a student's reading ability. With this in mind, the MJCA English Department wishes to encourage students to participate in the summer reading program. Below, you will find a list of some suggested books for reading over the summer. Other titles will certainly be accepted, provided you email with your respective teacher for approval.

Our desire is for our students to develop positive reading habits and to realize the great advantage of being consistent readers, exposing themselves to a variety of subjects, styles and authors.

As an incentive to participate in the program, we are offering some rewards for reading. For the first book, students will be able to drop one grade in the first quarter and replace it with their summer reading score. For each additional book students read, it will be added to their average as an *additional grade*. (This is not straight extra credit, but can certainly boost averages!)

We request that for each book read, the parents sign a statement verifying that their students actually **read** the book, and did not rely on book notes or other such "short cuts", and students must complete the assignment posted on Edline by their teacher.

### Entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade

<i>Holes</i>	Louis Sachar
<i>Number the Stars</i>	Lois Lowry
<i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>	Katherine Patterson
<i>Bighty of the Grand Canyon</i>	Marguerite Henry
<i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>	Christopher Paul Curtis
<i>Caddie Woodlawn</i>	Carol Ryrie Brink
<i>Catherine, Called Birdy</i>	Karen Cushman
<i>The Chronicles of Narnia</i> (any one book not read)	C. S. Lewis
<i>Hatchet</i>	Gary Paulsen
<i>Homecoming</i>	Cynthia Voight
<i>The Incredible Journey</i>	Sheila Burnford
<i>The Jungle Book</i>	Rudyard Kipling
<i>My Side of the Mountain</i>	Jean Craighead George
<i>Old Yeller</i>	Fred Gipson
<i>Shiloh</i>	Phyllis R. Naylor
<i>The Slave Dancer</i>	Paula Fox
<i>The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle</i>	Avi
<i>The View from Saturday</i>	E. L. Konigsburg
<i>The Westing Game</i>	Ellen Raskin
<i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i>	Wilson Rawls
<i>Souder</i>	William Armstrong
<i>Julie of the Wolves</i>	Jean George

\**Walk Two Moons*  
\**Island of the Blue Dolphins*  
\**The Secret Garden*  
\**The Black Stallion*

Sharon Creech  
Scott O'Dell  
Frances Hodgson Burnett  
Walter Farley

### **Entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade**

*Anne of Green Gables* (or any book in the series)  
*Black Beauty*  
*The Call of the Wild*  
*Death on the Nile* (any one book not read)  
*Dacey's Song*  
*Drive, The Story of my Life*  
*Jacob Have I Loved*  
*Kidnapped*  
*A Little Princess*  
*Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*  
*The Prince and the Pauper*  
*The Red Pony*  
*Summer of my German Soldier*  
*The Sword and the Stone*  
*The Yearling*  
*A Wrinkle in Time* (or any book in the series)  
*My Brother Sam is Dead*  
*Adam of the Road*  
*Number the Stars*  
*Summer of the Swans*

L.M. Montgomery  
Anna Sewell  
Jack London  
Agatha Christie  
Cynthia Voigt  
Larry Bird  
Katherine Patterson  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
Frances Hodgson Burnett  
Howard Pyle  
Mark Twain  
John Steinbeck  
Bette Green  
T. H. White  
Marjorie Rawlings  
Madeleine L'Engle  
James Collier  
Janet Elizabeth Gray  
Lois Lowry  
Betsy Byars

### **Entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*  
*All Creatures Great and Small*  
*The Book of King Arthur*  
*Captains Courageous*  
*Christy*  
*Clara Barton*  
*Johnny Tremain*  
*The Hobbit*  
*A Man Called Peter*  
*The Princess Bride*  
*Treasure Island*  
*Watership Down*  
*White Fang*  
*Tuck Everlasting*  
*The Witch of Blackbird Pond*  
*The Giver*  
*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*  
*Kon Tiki*  
*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*  
*The Egypt Game*

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
James Herriot  
Howard Pyle  
Rudyard Kipling  
Catherine Marshall  
Leni Hamilton  
Esther Forbes  
J.R.R. Tolkien  
Catherine Marshall  
William Goldman  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
Richard Adams  
Jack London  
Natalie Babbitt  
Elizabeth George Speare  
Lois Lowry  
Dee Brown  
Thor Hyerdahl  
Betty Smith  
Zilpha Keatley Snyder

## High School (\*Dual credit students have separate requirements.)

### Contemporary Fiction

*The Last Jihad*  
*Redeeming Love*  
*Showdown*  
*Night*  
*Julie*  
*A Walk to Remember*  
*Their Eyes were Watching God*  
*Christy*  
*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*  
*Bleachers*  
*A Painted House*  
*Blink of an Eye*  
*The Mitford Series* (any book not yet read)  
*The Traveler's Gift*

Joel Rosenberg  
Francine Rivers  
Ted Dekker  
Elie Wiesel  
Catherine Marshall  
Nicolas Sparks  
Zora Neale Hurston  
Catherine Marshall  
Maya Angelou  
John Grisham  
John Grisham  
Ted Dekker  
Jan Karron  
Andy Andrews

### Timeless Favorites

*House of Seven Gables*  
*A Farewell to Arms*  
*The Count of Monte Cristo*  
*Les Miserables*  
*Anna Karnina*  
*The Red Badge of Courage*  
*Jane Eyre*  
*The Invisible Man*  
*The Grapes of Wrath*  
*Of Mice and Men*  
*Ben Hur*  
*The Great Gatsby*  
*Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*

Nathaniel Hawthorne  
Ernest Hemingway  
Alexander Dumas  
Victor Hugo  
Leo Tolstoy  
Stephen Crane  
Charlotte Bronte  
Ralph Ellison  
John Steinbeck  
John Steinbeck  
Lew Wallace  
F. Scott Fitzgerald  
Anne Frank

### Science Fiction/Fantasy

*Fahrenheit 451*  
*Foundation* (any book in the trilogy)  
*Children of Hurin*  
*Martian Chronicles*  
*The Silmarillion*  
*The Lord of the Rings*

Ray Bradbury  
Isaac Asimov  
J.R.R. Tolkien  
Ray Bradbury  
J.R.R. Tolkien  
J.R.R. Tolkien

### Historical Fiction

*Savannah*  
*1776*  
*Dear and Glorious Physician*  
*Ivanhoe*  
*Treasure Island*  
*Zion Chronicles or Zion Covenant series*  
*The Georgia Trilogy*

Eugenia Price  
David McCulloch  
Taylor Caldwell  
Sir Walter Scott  
Robert Louis Stevenson  
Bodie Thoene  
Eugenia Price

Please Note: Different books are appropriate for and appeal to different ages and personalities. Please be guided by your own and your parents' discretion in choosing these books. You may check [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) for a review of these books before reading if you have questions.

Once books are read, please complete the assignment from your teacher. You should be prepared to turn the assignment and a verification form in on your first day in class.

## Mt. Juliet Christian Academy Parent Verification of Summer Reading

To help your student reach their academic potential, we encourage students to participate in summer reading to help them stay sharp and build reading skills. We have designed the program to encourage them and reward them for participation. As a department, we ask that you print and sign this page for each book as verification that your student actually read.

My student read \_\_\_\_\_ in its entirety, without relying on outside sources (i.e. tapes, cds, book notes, online summaries, etc.).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Summer Reading Assignments

## Entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade

### Required for first book read:

Pick a book from the list and read it. Create a collage on a regular sized poster board. The collage must be relevant to your book. You can draw or cut pictures/words from magazines or clipart etc. Use all the space on the poster board. On the back of the poster board, attach the parent verification form.

### Assignment for each additional book:

Write a book report using the following guideline.

First paragraph: Tell me the name of your book and author. Describe the setting and the main characters.

Second paragraph: Describe the main conflict of your novel. Also tell me the type of conflict (man vs. man; man vs. himself; man vs. a power greater than himself).

Third paragraph: Tell what you did or did not like about the book. Be specific.

Complete a parent verification form.

\*If you have questions, e-mail [sshoemaker@mjca.org](mailto:sshoemaker@mjca.org).

## Entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grades

**Choose one** for each book read. Complete a parent verification form for each book.

7th and 8th grade students will have the following four options for presenting their reports on the summer reading books:

**Book Jacket** - The student will design a book jacket for their book. The front cover will be an illustration of the story or a main character. The back cover will be a 100 word summary of the story and "magazine reviews" of the book.

**Wanted Poster** - The student will create a wanted poster of a villain in their chosen book. The poster must include a detailed character sketch and a 100 word description of the conflicts that this character had with others in the book.

**Bulletin Board** - The student will create a bulletin board (on a large poster board) about the book. This bulletin board must include pictures and descriptions of characters and setting. It must also have a 75 - 100 word summary of the book.

**Book-in-a-Bag Oral Presentation** - Students will give an oral presentation of the book using a bag with objects that relate to the story. The objects must be used to help "tell" the story. The students will have to tell the story in 3-5 minutes in front of the class.

\*If you have questions, e-mail [jrunyon@mjca.org](mailto:jrunyon@mjca.org)

## Entering 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grades

**Choose one** for each book read. Complete a parent verification form for each book.

### Comic Book/Story Board

Create a comic book or story board covering the major plot of the book. Be sure to include

scenes from the beginning, middle, and end of the book that help readers understand the major plotlines. Be careful, this one is easy to get a low grade on if you don't put in enough effort. It needs to be a condensed version of the book, which is engaging and makes sense to others, even if they haven't read the book itself. You must have at least 6 pages and 24 frames. Each frame must have a minimum of one sentence of text. In addition you must write one page explaining your comic book.

**Minimum: 6 pages, 24 frames, 24 sentences, one page (typed, double spaced) explaining your project.**

**Book Jacket** (it might be helpful to refer to a book jacket as a guide)

Design an original book jacket for your book. It should include

- front cover: title, author and cover art (art should reflect themes and symbols in the book)
- spine: title author and publisher
- back cover: 250 word review stating your opinion of the book
- inside flaps: 250 word tease (an inviting plot summary that intrigues readers without giving away too much).
- A page explaining your cover art and the ending of the book.

**Minimum: One book jacket, one page (typed, double spaced) explanation**

### **Game**

Create a game based on your book that can actually be played. Include directions for play as well as all necessary game pieces and equipment. Add a one-page summary explaining why the game fits the story (plot, theme, etc.) and explaining the different parts/pieces. It should not simply be a trivia game of questions about the book.

**Minimum: Game and all required materials to play it, one page (typed, double spaced) explanation**

### **Book Box**

Collect a minimum of 6 items that correspond to events or characters in your book. Include a minimum of 2 pages explaining the objects you choose and providing text support for your choices.

**Minimum: 6 items, 2 page (typed, double spaced) explanation**

If you have questions, e-mail [bmichael@mjca.org](mailto:bmichael@mjca.org).

## Entering 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grades (**excluding** Dual Credit students)

Be prepared to complete a test over your book during the first week of school.

If you have questions, e-mail [jchristensen@mjca.org](mailto:jchristensen@mjca.org).