

Incoming Fifth Grade Summer Reading

Middle School Summer Reading Activities:

1. Read the mandatory novel that is listed for your grade level. Students will discuss this book in class during the first week of school and will be tested on this novel.
2. Choose and read one book from the optional list that is provided for your grade level. Students will be required to take the Accelerated Reader test on this book during the first week of school.
3. In lieu of a project, students will complete a packet that will cover grade level reading and grammar skills. This packet will be provided on the SCS website for each grade level. The skills packet will be due Friday, the first week of school and will count as a formative assessment grade worth 10 points. The skills packet will be reviewed in class and then the material from the skills packet will be assessed on the same test as the mandatory novel on Friday, the second week of school. The AR test for the optional novel selection is due Wednesday, the second week of school.

*The mandatory novel section of the teacher-made test will be worth 60 points, and the skills section of the teacher-made test will be worth 30 points. The AR test on the optional book will be worth 10 points.

*The score from the teacher-made test (on the mandatory novel and skills) will be combined with the score from the AR test (on the optional novel) and will count as a 100 point test grade.

*Please remember to check book reviews before choosing a novel from the optional list. These reviews will help to guide you in your selection of a novel.

SCS will be purchasing all novels to be read during the school year, including the mandatory summer novel. You do not have to purchase any of the required novels for the school year.

Summer Reading

Mandatory Novel for Regular Academic Students:

Crash

By: Jerry Spinelli

Mandatory Novel for Honors Students:

Where the Red Fern Grows

By: Wilson Rawls

Optional Novels for summer reading requirement:

1: *A Wrinkle in Time*

By: Madeleine L'Engle

Science Fiction: This is a classic adventure story of three children Meg, Charles, and Calvin. With the help of the three mysterious ladies named Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which, the children must embark on a strange and perilous journey to find the father of Meg and Charles Wallace.

2: *The Magician's Elephant*

By: Kate DiCamillo

Fantasy: When ten-year-old orphan Peter encounters a fortuneteller in the marketplace, she tells him that his sister, who is presumed dead, is in fact alive, so he embarks on a remarkable series of adventures as he desperately tries to find her.

3: *A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray*

By: Ann M. Martin

Adventure: Squirrel and her brother Bone begin their lives in a tool shed behind someone's summer house. Their mother nurtures them and teaches them the many skills they will need to survive as stray dogs. But when their mother is taken from them suddenly and too soon, the puppies are forced to make their own way in the world.

4: *Maniac Magee*

By: Jerry Spinelli

Realistic Fiction: He wasn't born with the name Maniac Magee. He came into this world named Jeffrey Lionel Magee, but when his parents died and his life changed, so did his name. And Maniac Magee became a legend. Even today kids talk about how fast he could run and about how he hit an inside-the-park "frog" homer, but the thing Mania Magee is best known for is what he did for the kids from the East Side and those from the West Side.

5: *Out of Darkness: The Story of Louis Braille*

By: Russell Freedman

Nonfiction: At the age of three, Louis Braille was blinded in an accident; at the age of 10, he was sent to study at the Royal Institute for Blind Youth in Paris. Learning was a painstaking process, and Braille was determined to find a better way.

6: *Titanic: A Nonfiction Companion to Tonight on the Titanic*

By: Will and Mary Pope Osborn

(Magic Tree House Research Guide)

Nonfiction: How long did it take to build the Titanic? Why did it sink? What was it like to be a passenger? What happened to the people who survived? Find out the answers to these questions and more by reading Jack and Annie's very own guide to the ship and its story.

7. *Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, U.S. Deputy Marshall* By: Vaunda Micheaux Nelson

Nonfiction: The story of Bass Reeves is the story of a remarkable African American and a remarkable hero of the Old West. Outlaws feared him. Law-abiding citizens respected him. As a peace officer, he was cunning and fearless. This picture book accurately tells the story of a man born into slavery who grew up to become the most feared and respected lawman in the Indian Territories.

8. *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*

By: E.L. Konigsburg

Adventure Fiction: Bored with her life, twelve-year-old Claudia Kincaid is ready for a big change. In fact, she wants to run away from home. But she doesn't like discomfort. She doesn't even like picnics. So an old-fashioned, knapsack kind of running away is out of the question. Instead of running from somewhere, she decides to run to somewhere — some place comfortable, and preferably beautiful. Where else, but the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City?
Excerpt from Scholastic.com book wizard review

St. Catherine of Siena
Middle School Summer Reading Packet
5th Grade

A. ROOT WORDS

Each of the following words is made up of a root word and an ending. You should be able to recognize the root word even though the spelling was changed in some way when the ending was added. On the blank write the root for each word.

1. Happiest Happy _____
2. Foggy _____
3. Activities _____
4. Whistling _____
5. Prettify _____
6. Busily _____
7. Diving _____
8. Imaginable _____
9. Grabbed _____
10. Shelves _____

B. FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE/LITERARY DEVICES

Read each sentence below. Underline the two things that are being compared. Then write simile or metaphor to tell which figure of speech was used.

1. The road ran along before us like a gray ribbon. simile _____
2. The moon overhead was a big white plate. _____
3. The cactuses were pincushions. _____
4. The glass of ice water felt like a mountain stream. _____
5. Lights up ahead looked like fallen stars. _____

Construct an example sentence(s) for each of the following types of figurative language.

1. Personification:

2. Hyperbole:

3. Alliteration:

Match the following figurative languages/literary devices with their definition.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| _____1. onomatopoeia | A. comparing 2 objects/people without using like or as |
| _____2. imagery | B. words that set the stage for events yet to unfold |
| _____3. Idiom | C. using an object or action that means something more than its literal meaning |
| _____4. flashback | D. comparing 2 objects/people using like or as |
| _____5. foreshadowing | E. reference to a previous event |
| _____6. simile | F. words whose very sound is very close to the sound they are meant to depict |
| _____7. metaphor | G. the use of descriptive words to create a “mental picture” |
| _____8. symbol | H. words that mean something other than the literal meaning |

C. FACT AND OPINION

After you read each statement below write F for fact in the blank if the statement can be proved true or false, and O for opinion if the statement cannot be proved definitely right or wrong.

_____ 1. Mercury is a planet in the solar system.

_____ 3. The Camry is the best-looking car on the road.

_____ 4. My father makes the best spaghetti.

_____ 5. California is on the Pacific Coast.

_____ 6. Walking on the beach is a lot of fun.

_____ 7. Springfield is the state capital of Illinois.

_____ 8. Blue is the best color for sweaters.

D. MAKING INFERENCES

Read the following situations and answer the questions.

Three boys are walking down the street. Ed and Tommy are patting Peter on the back. They are telling him what a good friend he is and what a good football player he is. They tell him how smart he is. It seems they just can't compliment him enough.

1. Who just got his allowance, Ed, Tommy, or Peter? _____

2. Why are Ed and Tommy so friendly towards Peter?

Andrew and his mom and dad are all outside in the snow building a snowman. After five minutes, Andrew heads for the door. He's had enough. Mom and Dad look extremely surprised.

1. Who insisted on making the snowman in the first place?

You ask your sister how she did on her chemistry test, and she replies by slamming her books down on a table and snapping, "I don't want to talk about it!"

1. What do you guess has happened?

E. SEQUENCING

Below is a list of events that might make up a story. They are out of order. Number the events in sequence from first to last.

_____ Marcy outlines her essay and then writes the first draft.

_____ Marcy mails her essay to *Teen Life*.

_____ Marcy reads about an essay contest that the magazine *Teen Life* is sponsoring.

_____ Each day after school Marcy checks the mail, hoping for a letter from *Teen Life*.

_____ Marcy reads all the contest rules and instructions carefully.

_____ Marcy revises her first draft and recopies it onto a new sheet of paper.

_____ Marcy tears open the letter, and check for one hundred dollars falls out.

_____ Marcy finally receives a letter from *Teen Life*.

F. CAUSE AND EFFECT

Choose the correct cause for each effect. Write the letter in the sentence.

Causes

- a. Because sound travels slower than light,
- b. Because small streams move together and join,
- c. Because dinosaurs lived on Earth millions of years before humans,
- d. Because stars are far away,
- e. Because jet airplanes were invented,

1. _____, they must be studied with a telescope.
2. _____, rivers are formed.
3. _____, people can travel long distances in less time.
4. _____, no person had ever seen one.
5. _____, lightning is seen before thunder is heard.

G. WORD ENDINGS

Choose the correct words to complete the following sentences.

direct directly directed directing direction

1. A balloon can only move in the _____ the wind takes it.
2. A puff of smoke rose _____ up the chimney.
3. When they felt the earthquake, he _____ them to a safe place.
4. When the bridge collapsed, firefighters had to _____ cars to other streets.
5. He was _____ traffic to avoid an accident.