

TGS Middle School Summer Reading 2023

2023-24 Fifth Grade

This summer, we want you to enjoy reading every day. Challenge yourself to include a wide range of genres including non-fiction, historical fiction and the classics. For example, if you typically read fantasy, try historical fiction or poetry. When we meet in the fall, you will have the opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas about the books you chose to read.

Required reading (choose 2 or more):

Bridge to the Wild by Caitlin O'Connell

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick

Last Day on Mars by Kevin Emerson

Searching for Chessie of Chesapeake Bay by Lisa Cole

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene DuBois

Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems by Bob Raczka

2023-24 Sixth Grade

Required reading (one book from list and one choice book):

Choose one or more of the following books:

Half a World Away by Cynthia Kadohata

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Out of my Mind by Sharon M. Draper

The characters in these books face unique challenges. Think about the main character of the book you chose. How do you identify with this character, what are some similarities and differences between you and them? Do you agree with how the main character sees the problem? If you were in their shoes, would you look at the problem the same or differently? Be ready to share your connections and thinking.

In addition, choose a book to read that showcases your reading identity. What genre do you especially enjoy? Are you a fantasy reader? Do you enjoy mysteries? Nonfiction? Be ready to share your book choice and tell why it represents you as a reader.

We will engage in activities and discussions based on your summer reading during the first week of school. I am looking forward to learning more about each of you as a reader and thinker!

2023-24 Seventh Grade

Required Book: *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson

Enjoy reading about the courageous young protagonist, Isabel, as she navigates life as a slave girl during the dramatic times of 1776 in colonial America. Create a slide show that highlights the overall plot through five important events. For each slide, copy/paste or draw a picture that represents that important event. No words are necessary on the slides; just highlight your events with an interesting and relevant picture for each slide. We'll share and discuss the slide presentations on the first day of class.

In addition, choose one other book **outside** your normal reading preference. For example: If you really enjoy reading fantasy literature books from authors such as J.R.R. Tolkien and J.K. Rowling, then know that of yourself and choose another genre. A genre is a category of literary composition: westerns, crime thrillers, romance, military, health, etc. Be ready to introduce this second book and briefly explain a little bit about the basic literary elements of the story such as plot, characters, setting, and insights you might have realized.

Bring both books on the first day of school.

2023-24 Eighth Grade

Required: choose one of the following ten books to read. Then create a slide presentation to share on the first day of class that shows the coming of age journey of the protagonist or protagonists.

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

The Giver by Lois Lowry

New Kid by Jerry Craft

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Saenz

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson

The Raft by S.A. Bodeen

Watership Down by Richard Adams

Your choice: read one book of your own choosing in a genre or format that you enjoy. Be ready to share on the first day of class which book you chose and why.