

TGS Middle School Summer Reading 2020

2020-21 Fifth Grade

This summer, we want you to enjoy reading every day. Try to include a wide range of genres including non-fiction, classics and historical fiction. Please challenge yourself to try a new genre. For example, if you typically read fantasy, try historical fiction or poetry.

Required reading (choose 2):

Bridge to the Wild by Caitlin O'Connell

Searching for Chessie of Chesapeake Bay by Lisa Cole

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick

Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene DuBois

Looking for more books to read? Here are some of our favorites, but not required:

Starry River of the Sky by Grace Lin

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau

Bridge to the Wild by Caitlin O'Connell

Isaac the Alchemist by Mary Losure

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

Call of the Wild by Jack London

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

2020-21 Sixth Grade

Required reading:

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

Think about the main character of the story. How do you identify with this character? Do you agree with the main character's perspective of the problem in the story?

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

2020-21 Seventh Grade

Required Book: *Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Larson

Read this young adult, historical fiction novel, and prepare a simple three paragraph essay that highlights the main challenge of the story for the protagonist, as well as two other minor challenges that the main character faces. Each paragraph will represent each challenge.

In addition, choose one other book **outside** your normal reading preference. For example: If you really enjoy fantasy literature books from authors such as JRR 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, without notes, a little bit about the basic literary elements such as plot, characters, setting, and whatever else you think would be good to know.

Bring both books and written work (3 paragraph essay) on the first day of school.

2020-21 Eighth Grade

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

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

**note to parents: PG-13 content

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

Mosquitoland by David Arnold

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.