



To: All Students Entering Grades 7 & 8 in September 2016
From: Mrs. Sherrienne Herninko, Union School Media Specialist
Date: May 20, 2016
Re: Summer Reading

Based on the positive feedback regarding the new summer reading program initiated last year, we plan to use the same format for summer reading this year.

For the 2016 Summer Reading program, students entering Union Middle School in grades 7 & 8 will be permitted to choose their own summer reading book. There is no required list. Any fiction or nonfiction book that suits the student's grade-level and ability-level may be selected from any genre. Students will have time to explore various genres and age appropriate books during library class in order to assist in their book selection process.

Students must select a book and submit it via this GoogleForm: <http://goo.gl/forms/FffhZkwR1V> no later than **Friday, June 3, 2016**. Students **MUST** be logged in to their Rutherford Google account in order to fill out the form.

All students' choices will be recorded and forwarded to their English Language Arts teacher of record for the 2016-2017 school year.

Over the summer, students should read their book of choice and complete the summer reading assignment for their grade level. Students in grades 7 & 8 may choose and complete **ONE** of the four assignments detailed in the summer reading packet. Students in all grades should submit their completed summer reading assignment to their Language Arts teacher no later than **September 16th, 2016**.

All assignments will be graded using the attached rubric and will count as a grade for the 1st marking period of the 2016-2017 school year.

It is my hope that students continue to find the flexibility of the summer reading program to be liberating and therefore a more personally rewarding experience in which reading becomes a desired activity.

SUMMER READING DIRECTIONS

1. Select a book. Any book of any genre that is interesting and exciting to you may be selected. (It should be an appropriate text with regards to grade level, ability level, and content.)
2. Submit your choice at <http://goo.gl/forms/FffhZkwR1V> for approval by **Friday, June 3, 2016**. Your choice will be forwarded to next year's Language Arts teacher. Students **MUST** be logged in to their Rutherford Google account in order to fill out the form.
3. Read the book over the summer!
4. You will have until September 16, 2016 to submit your completed summer reading assignment to your Language Arts teacher.
5. Have questions? Need help?

Email Union Middle School Librarian Mrs. Herninko at
sherninko@rutherfordschools.org

Between June 24th, 2016 and September 1st, 2016, email the district supervisor of English Language Arts, Mr. Ersalesi, at bersalesi@rutherfordschools.org

Summer Reading Assignment Choices for Students Entering Grades 7 & 8

Directions: Choose one assignment from the list below to complete over the summer. You should submit your completed assignment to your Language Arts teacher no later than September 16th, 2016. Your assignment will be graded using the attached rubric.

Assignment #1 - Vocabulary Log

Keep a log of challenging vocabulary words that you encounter while reading the book. You should choose at least **10 words** and complete the following for each word:

1. List the word.
2. Record the sentence from the text that the word was found in.
3. Write the definition and the part of speech of the word.
4. Write a simple synonym for the word.
5. Write an original sentence using the word.
6. Include a drawing or picture that visually represents the meaning of the word.

Assignment #2 - Market It! Create an advertisement to sell the book.

Your advertisement should be in the form of a Movie Poster (no larger than a poster board) and should include the following sections:

1. The Title of the book
2. A Central Graphic (this should be an original drawing that represents a major aspect your book)
3. A Slogan (A catchy phrase that encapsulates your book and will make someone want to read your book)
4. Quotes from the book
5. Your own personal review of the book

Assignment #3 - Cast It!

Your book is being made into a movie! Cast at least 4 characters from your book and provide a justification for each.

For each character, you must include:

1. The name of the character you plan to cast
2. Name of the actor / actress who accurately fits the role of that character
3. A 5 sentence paragraph detailing at least 3 reasons why your actor / actress would fit the role of your character.
4. A picture of the actor.

Assignment #4- Book Club

Form a book club with 2 - 4 people and keep a log of 3 meetings. People in the book club are responsible for keeping their own log. For each meeting, choose one question from the following list to start a discussion:

- How did you **experience** the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to "get into it"? How did you feel reading it - amused, sad, confused, bored...?
- Describe the main **characters**. Who is your favorite character and why? What motivates the characters to make certain choices? Do you agree with the choices the characters make?
- Do the main **characters change** by the end of the book? Do they grow or mature? Do they learn something about themselves and how the world works?
- Does the story interest you? Is the book a fast-paced page-turner? Or does the story unfold slowly? Were you surprised by events in the story or did you find it predictable?
- What main ideas—**themes**—does the author explore? (Consider the title, often a clue to a theme.)
- Is the **ending** satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not...and how would you change it?
- What **passages** are meaningful to you? Perhaps something that made you laugh or cry? Something that you were able to relate to?
- Has this novel **changed you**? Did you learn something new or has it changed your opinion about a certain issue?

Discussion Questions modified from Litlovers.com

The log must include:

1. The date of the meeting
2. Discussion question(s)
3. A brief summary of the discussion (5 sentence paragraph)
4. Personal reflection of overall meeting detailing the following: (5 sentence paragraph)
 - a. Any insight you gained
 - b. Disagreements you may have had with other book club members
 - c. Other thoughts that you did not get to share

Summer Reading Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Reading Comprehension	The assignment demonstrates thorough reading of the book and specific references the text to support the assignment.	The assignment demonstrates reading of the book and makes references to the text.	The assignment demonstrates skimming or partial reading and made vague references to the text.	The assignment demonstrates little or no reading and made no references to the text.
Organization	Reader can easily follow the progression of ideas and reasoning in the assignment. Structure is appropriate to the assignment.	Reader can follow the progression of ideas and reasoning in the assignment. There is some logic in organization of ideas.	Reader struggles to follow the progression of ideas and reasoning in the assignment. There is a lack of logic in the organization of ideas.	Organization is unacceptable and lacks coherence.
Mechanics	No spelling or grammatical errors.	Very few spelling or grammatical errors.	Several spelling or grammatical errors.	Many spelling or grammatical errors.
Project Components	All key components are evident in the assignment.	Almost all key components are evident in the assignment.	Several key components are not evident in the assignment.	Most of the key components are not evident in the assignment.
Overall Appearance	Style is original and attractive. Artwork is exceptionally creative. The assignment is neat and legible.	Style is mostly original and attractive. Artwork is creative. The assignment is mostly neat and legible.	Style is somewhat original. Artwork is somewhat creative. The assignment is somewhat neat and legible.	Style is not original. Artwork is not creative. The assignment is not neat and legible.

Name _____

Score ____ / 20