Seventh and Eighth Grade Summer Reading

Welcome to Middle School!

Grade 7 and 8 Independent Summer Project

This summer you will be completing an independent summer reading project. Please choose one of the following to study and report about.

- a genre
- author
- nonfiction topic
- series

Read 3 books. Prepare a presentation to share with the class one of the first days of school. This could be a PowerPoint or some other presentation format. You can choose an author, genre, topic or series not listed on this sheet. Your local public library will have the resources you need this summer to find great books! Or, visit our library webpage for booklist resources and Mrs. Wilson’s recommended books blog.

Possible Genres

historical fiction
realistic fiction
mystery
fantasy
science-fiction
dystopian

If you choose to study a genre, define the genre. Why did you choose these books? What literary elements are most important to the genre - setting, character, plot? What do your three books have in common that help define the genre?

Possible Authors

John Greene    Neil Shusterman    Mark Twain
Lois Lowry     Jacqueline Woodson  Mike Lupica
C.S. Lewis     S.E. Hinton         Niki Grimes
Jason Reynolds Lauren Wolk        Christopher Paolini
If you choose to study an author, what is the author’s style/format? What techniques does the author use that draw you into their books? How do authors use specific craft techniques to share their stories in similar ways across multiple texts? Why do you like this author?

- foreshadowing
- dialogue
- flashback/flashforward
- action
- font change
- multiple plot lines
- suspense
- mood
- multiple narrators
- description
- figurative language
- inner thinking
- word choice

Nonfiction Topics

What did you learn about your topic? Why did you choose this topic? What are some central ideas with supporting details?

Possible Series

- Harry Potter
- The Hunger Games
- The Uglies
- Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children
- The City of Ember
- The Land of Stories
- The Alex Rider Series
- Monstrumologist

- Divergent
- Theodore Boone/Kid Lawyer
- The Kingdom Keepers
- Lionboy
- The Ranger’s Apprentice
- Among The Hidden/Shadow Children
- Because of Mr. Terupt

- Maximum Ride
- The Maze Runner
- The Hypnotists
- Pendragon

If you choose to read 3 books in a series, think about how the story progresses. What happens in each book that leads to the next book? How do the characters develop? What is the greatest suspenseful event in each book?